Horticultural Society

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN

DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE, THE FARM, THE GARDEN, THE FIRESIDE, RURAL LIFE, LITERATURE, USEFUL ARTS, NEWS, &c.

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Editorial.

CRANBERRY GROWING.

The cultivation of the cranberry has at times excited a good deal of interest, and many attempts were made a few years ago to raise it in large quantities. Many have failed and many have succeeded in making a paying business of it, though the obstacles have been found to be greater than were at first anticipated. So far as our observation has gone most cultivators have chosen good locations, viz., peat-bottomed land, which is very desirable, most of them well sheltered by woods and trees or bushes, which in a great measure protect them from the cold northerly and westerly winds. Such locations ought to be highly appreciated by the cranberry-grower. By taking a survey through the towns of Massachusetts, we sometimes come in contact with swamps surrounded by sand-hills. Such locations as these are also very desirable, as sand is very useful and important for a top-dressing for cranberry land. The cranberry vines should be flooded as soon as the first of November, to such a depth as to prevent the water freezing among the vines, and pulling them out of the surface, and also that the vines may retain the sap, which the frost would otherwise take out by freezing. Flowing is also desirable, to prevent the ravages of the cranberry-worm; for the meadows which are flowed through the winter are not half so likely to be attacked by them. This worm is of small size, smaller than the apple-worm, although similar in appearance. It makes its appearance about the time the berry begins to ripen, by eating a hole through the outside and coming out. The berries are then rendered worthless. The worm originates in the blossom from a white miller, which lays an egg there; then, when the cranberry is about to grow, the worm is also grown, and it eats out the berry, and remains in some form about the meadow. It is on this account that flowing through the winter is beneficial, as it is very likely to kill most of the worms. The water should be kept on until about the first of June, for keeping it on until that time prevents the vines from vegetating, as the early frosts would be likely to destroy the new shoot, which is very sensitive. The cranberry never grows directly on the old vine, but always on the new shoot, which starts from the old vine. If the shoots are struck with frost in the spring, we are sure to have no berries that season. After letting the water off, care should be taken not to have any stagnant water in or about the cranberry plantation. Stagnant water is bad. A system of drainage, therefore, is about as important as the means of flowing. It is also of the first importance to select good varieties. Cranberries differ as much as other fruits. Some ripen earlier than others. Some bear very much better than others. There are many things to be considered and it is necessary to start right.

FRUIT GROWING.

The abundance of apples and pears this year, and the consequent low prices, have had the effect to discourage a great many from all attempts at growing more fruit. This seems to us a hasty conclusion, and we hope no farmer will give it up for any such reason, but study to find out some way to meet the difficulty by trying to grow a superior quality that always demands a market. Dr. Fisher very properly says that to make fruit growing a successful matter for the country at large, it must be made a success both to the producer and consumer. The one should get fairly remunerated for his efforts, while the other should be supplied with an abundance of fruit at a reasonable price. This can only be done by selecting those varieties for cultivation that yield large and uniform crops, even though their quality may not be quite equal to that of others whose single specimens are the apology for pecks or bushels. We should demand quantity as a first essential, and be ready to exchange only when we are sure of a gain in quality without loss in productiveness.

There are many things yet to be learned in this direction, and the fact that the markets are low in certain seasons ought not to lead us to give up trying, but to stimulate us to greater effort and to higher cultivation.

MAKE THE MOST OF WINTER.

Many farmers look forward to the winter as a season of rest and give themselves up to idleness. This seems to us all wrong and we hope young farmers especially will lay out their plans to make the most of the opportunity which the long evenings afford for mental culture. Our old friend Robert B. Thomas, well says:

A spur in the head is worth two in the heels. Head work is what we want on the farm. It is brain power that makes things move in this world, and keeps them on the track. Make and lay out the plans for the year. Map out the fields so as to know just where and when to put in the work. The great secret of luck on the farm is to do things at the right time and in the right way. A note book in the pocket is a handy thing. Strict farm accounts, with each lot under its own head, tell a plain and true story. Jot down a new thought on the spot. It saves a heap of time. Hire farm hands early. The best are sure to be snatched up first, and the best are the cheapest in the end even if they cost a little more by the month. Keep barns and sheds clean, the tools under cover and all in their place. It does'nt improve the carts, the ploughs, the horse rakes or the sleighs, to let the hens roost on them. The buts and stalks of corn ought to be cut short to be fed out to cows. It saves a great deal. All stock ought to be kept clean and in pure air, not too cold. Keep the cellar as clean as wax. Put on a good coat of lime wash, you can do it now as well as in spring. Fill the ice house. A rough cheap ice house is worth ten times its cost. It is best, also, to fill it early in the winter, that is as early as it is possible to cut and lay in a first quality of ice.

FOREST CULTURE.

The time for making entries for the liberal prizes offered by the Massachusetts Society for Promoting Agriculture has now passed and we regret to learn that the number of entries has been small. We have at different times during the present year called attention to the subject, and from the many enquiries upon the subject and the wide distribution of the little pamphlet containing the essay of Prof. Sargent, reprinted from the last Report of the Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture, we very naturally inferred that there was a wide spread interest in the planting of trees and that there would be some active competition for the prizes. But such does not appear to be the case. We believe it is good economy to plant trees and we agree with Geo. B. Emerson when he says that it is very important to cover all the hills with trees. By doing it you will improve the climate. The loss of trees in Massachusetts has injured the climate very much. It has been growing worse and worse for over a hundred years. An old gentleman in Worcester, said forty years ago: "There are a great many plants we cannot cultivate in our gardens now,—nice, delicate things,—which, when I was a boy (he was fifty or sixty years old then), grew perfectly well; but, since then, all these hills have been denuded, the forests on them have been cut down, and the winds from every quarter come in without being impeded at all, and that makes our climate so bad here in the centre of Worcester that many of the delicate plants which flourished perfectly well thirty or forty years ago cannot be raised now."

We can all do something towards remedying this evil. Take care that the tops and sides of all the hills shall be covered with forests. By so doing, we are not only protecting our own gardens so that we may cultivate delicate plants in them, but are rendering our homes more comfortable and more healthy.

DECEMBER.

All animals should have good shelter in this cold weather. Any want of it will lead to loss of flesh and thrift. It costs more to feed an animal that is exposed to cold and driving storms than one that is kept warm. Feed at the same hours each day. Regularity is next in importance to a full supply of food. Let the food be in the very best condition. A few roots once a day or so will add much to the thrift of most farm stock. For cows in milk it is an easy matter to cut the straw or corn stalks and the coarser qualities of hay, mix in a little bran or shorts in a covered box, and pour over hot water. After standing a few hours the mass will be softened, and be more easily digested. It is about equal to steaming. Cattle should have easy access to good water twice every day. Manure may be hauled out and spread upon the land if not covered with snow. A good top dressing at this season protects the roots of the grass, and will do as much good as if put on in the spring. It is time now to balance up accounts and see how the year's work foots up. It is easy to see from carefully kept accounts what has paid the best, and to take them for a guide for the future.—*Robt. B. Thomas.*

PRESERVATION OF POTATOES.

M. Carriere, a French writer, publishes some interesting particulars regarding the preservation of potatoes during winter and spring. The methods usually employed he characterizes as both good and bad; good, because the atmosphere of cellars or pits is usually damp enough to prevent the too speedy evaporation of water from the tubers, and bad, because the cellars are almost invariably kept closed, so that occasionally the temperature rises considerably and induces the very evil most to be avoided, namely, the sprouting out of buds. In storing potatoes for seed or culinary purposes, the main object in view is to prevent their germination, so that it may not be necessary to pick out the budding eyes, a process which invariably induces a rapid deterioration in quality and strength. To prevent this, the store-places should be wholesome, dry, and *freely ventilated.* In extremely cold weather the temperature must be raised by artificial means, but an excess of warmth is to be carefully guarded against; it is sufficient to keep the temperature just above freezing point, the arrival of which may be proved, in the absence of a thermometer, by the appearance of ice on a shallow pan of water purposely kept in the store-place. These measures suffice in the case of potatoes intended for planting out, but where they are required for domestic consumption the further precaution must be taken of shielding them from the action of light. If this be not done, the tubers are apt to turn green, a change which is nothing to their detriment for seeding purposes, but which is attended by chemical alterations that give them a bitter taste, and quite spoils them for domestic use. By attention to these points, M. Carriere has succeeded in keeping old potatoes in good palatable condition up to the middle of June, or sometimes, as in the present year, to the middle of July, by which date the new potatoes are no longer scarce, dear, and tasteful, as is the case at the time the old stock usually goes out.

A GOOD WHITEWASH.

For outside work the following can scarcely be surpassed. Slack one peck of new white lime with boiling water, covering during the process to keep in as much steam as possible. Strain the liquid and add to it half a peck of salt previously dissolved in hot water; one to one and a half pounds of rice paste, and half a pound of finely ground whiting. Add two and a half gallons of hot water; stir well and apply quite hot; half a pound of glue, dissolved and stirred in, will be a great improvement. For barns, and indeed any sort of buildings, and whether inside or outside the foregoing is very superior. The only objectionable ingredient in the wash is the salt, which has the property, as every one knows, of attracting sheep, cattle, etc., causing no little annoyance, especially when at night the "belled critters" come prowling about. As the salt is not an essential ingredient, it were wise, perhaps, in such instances, to omit it.

DIGESTION IN ANIMALS.

Those who have paid any attention to chemistry are aware, that there is a fluid called muriatic acid or spirit of salt, and that it is highly corrosive; dissolving metals, wood, etc., and destroying the surface of our skins, when applied to them. There is another substance called soda, which is used in the composition of soap. This also is excessively acid, and able to destroy and decompose the skin. Now if we combine these powerful and poisonous ingredients together, the result is common salt—a substance totally different from either of its constituent parts and so far from being acrid and poisonous, that it is a necessary article of food.

Just so a piece of bread, a vegetable and inanimate substance, when united with the gastric juice, an animal and to a certain degree animated fluid, becomes something which is neither this fluid nor bread, but a third substance fitted to be taken up by the vessels of the body.

And here we have arrived at the point where vegetables and animals agree—the little vessels of the roots of plants absorb from the surrounding earth, its nutritive materials—and the little vessels or roots of animals in like manner, absorb from the mass contained in the stomach, such portions as are adapted to their support. The materials thus taken up are carried into the great system of the circulation.

The food of plants as has been stated is simple, and such as may be obtained in different degrees of abundance, wherever there is earth. That of animals is of various kinds and must be sought after in different places. At least this is true in general, for there are some exceptions in the inferior order of animals, as for instance in the polypus. This animal seems to be one of the connecting links between the two kingdoms, for although it has a proper stomach and digestion like an animal, it is always fixed to the same spot like a vegetable, and has no power of moving after its prey. It is obliged therefore to trust to such as may chance to pass within its reach. It resides however in water, where its food is abundant and seizes whatever passes within its long feelers, which grow from its mouth, or aperture and conveys them into its stomach—and thus perhaps thrives better than some animals, who wander from place to place, resembling in this respect, to borrow a simile from the learned Jedediah Cleishbotham "the tollman at a well-frequented turnpike, who sitting at his ease in his own dwelling, gathereth more receipt of custom, than if moving forth upon the road, he were to require a contribution from each person whom he chanced to meet in his journey, when according to the vulgar adage, he might possibly be greeted with more kicks than half-pence."

The greater number of animals are compelled to move from place to place, and to make various exertions to obtain their food and drink. And as this function is the most important of all, and indeed a sine qui non, for the preservation of life, the Creator has provided for its regular performance, both by rewards and punishments—by the pleasure which accompanies its exercise and the distress which follows its omission. This evil which is called Hunger, or Thirst, according as it follows the want of food or drink, is one of the greatest to which animals are subject; and to avoid it they will make almost any exertion and incur almost any danger. Many when under its influence, will attack man, without hesitation, when under any other circumstances, they would fly from his presence.

The final cause of this sensation is sufficiently evident, but the immediate or proximate one is not so. Many hypotheses have been framed to explain it, but none are so satisfactory as to deserve notice. Physiologists now generally treat this question as they do most others which they do not understand. That is to say, they call them nervous. The main difference between this, and most other sensations is, that the latter are excited by the presence of some object, while this is the result of the absence of any. We can easily conceive that the nerves of the ear, for instance, should be excited to sensation, by the undulations of the air, but it would be much more difficult to conceive of their being affected or excited to motion, because there were no undulations.

The time during which animals can do without is, of course, different, according to the species. Man, if in health and vigor, dies at the end of five, six, seven or eight days, according to the age, the oldest enduring longest. The time varies according to the periodical loss. Thus in the more perfect animals, where from the number of functions, the wear and tear is the greatest, the want of food cannot be endured so long, as in the inferior orders.

Insects, who lose nothing in winter, being totally dormant, of course require no food during that time. The same is the case with those fishes, which, during that time, are buried in the mud.

Other insects, which pass through several stages of existence, do not eat at all, or very little, during one of the stages. Thus the butterfly, being only in a stage, which is intended to be very short, requires no food, the gadfly for a similar reason, has no mouth, others go without for a long time. The antlion for instance six months, the leech eight, and the sea-crab eighteen.

Cold-blooded animals live much longer in this situation than warm, vipers, rattlesnakes, &c., live four or five months; salamanders, lizards, crocodiles, frogs, &c., a year and tortoises longer.

Among the warm-blooded animals, some slothful species, as the South American sloth live several weeks, and the hybernating animals, or those which sleep through the winter, as the bear and dormouse, of course spend that period without food.

The lively and active animals of this class however suffer severely after a few days.

There are accounts of individuals of the human species, who have lived without any substance, or without any other than water. Some of these, as for instance Ann Moore, the fasting woman, were impostors, but there is no doubt, that some feeble and phlegmatic persons have really fasted for months and even years.

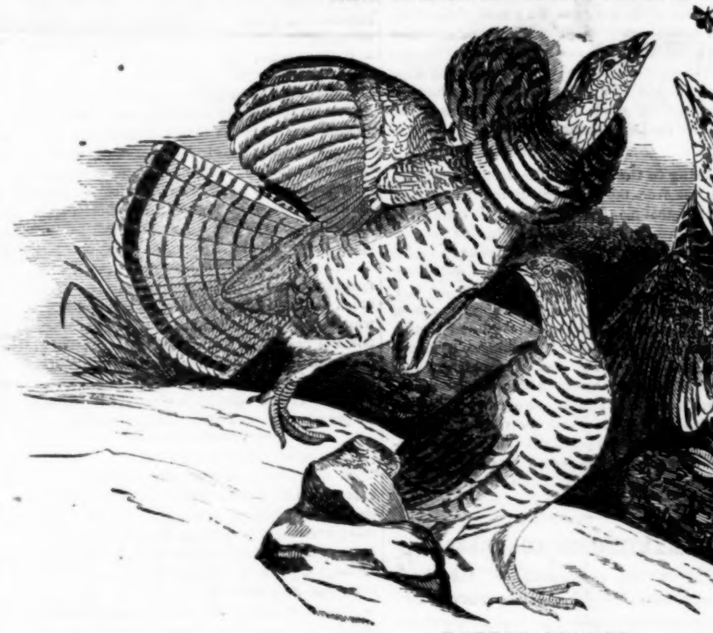
There is a similar variation in animals, in regard to drink. Thus carnivorous insects and some birds of prey do not drink at all. So the rapacious quadrupeds drink but little and seldom. The civet cat is said to drink but once a month.

Other animals are enabled to go without drinking by particular arrangements. Camels and dromedaries, for instance, retain water for a long time in the reservoirs, which are attached to one of their stomachs. Others do not need drink, on account of the moisture of the herbs, upon which they feed, as sheep, which are kept in some Alpine pastures. There are likewise on record, instances of men and women, who have gone without drinking for years.

Deodorus, an ancient writer, asserts that those who live upon fish, are never thirsty, which does not exactly accord with our experience.

Animals derive their sustenance from vegetables, or animals, little or none being obtained from the mineral. These which live entirely upon the former, are called phytipirous, or herbivorous, those which feed upon flesh only are termed carnivorous. Nature admits however of considerable latitude in this particular, and there are few animals, so strickly carnivorous, that they cannot be nourished by vegetable food, or so strictly phytipirous, that they cannot eat flesh. Thus horses, cows and sheep will live upon fish, and horses in some countries will thrive upon meat, and rabbits upon blood.

RUFFED GROUSE.



RUFFED GROUSE.

The Farm.

FALL MANURING AND PLOUGHING.

A farmer who enjoys and probably deserves the credit of making more money at the business than almost any other one in the town where he lives, said to us the other day that he believed two loads of manure ploughed or harrowed in in the fall is worth as much as three loads ploughed in in the spring. He has been experimenting on the subject for twenty years, and knows what he is talking about. The practice which he believes is the best he follows, and it is this: The manure which is made by his stock in the winter he leaves in his barn cellar all summer. It is not left in heaps, but is spread around over the cellar, and occasionally during the summer there is carted upon it a layer of loam or muck. It is then ploughed as one would plough a field. In this way the manure becomes pulverized, and whatever additions are made to it by adding loam and litter, are thoroughly incorporated with it during the summer, and in the fall it is nearly as fine as ashes. The ground which it is intended to plant and sow the next spring, is ploughed and the manure carted upon it and thoroughly harrowed in Then in the spring a cultivator harrow is run over the land, making it mellow, and the seed is put in. All the manure drawn out in the spring is what is sometimes put in the hill.

Land prepared in this way, our friend claims, will yield 25 per cent. more corn than that which is ploughed and dressed with the same amount of manure in the spring. There are other reasons why he favors fall ploughing. It gives him two or three weeks' start in the spring, and enables him to get his crop in much earlier than he could if he had his ploughing to do and manure to haul after the snow leaves. He raises wheat, and always has a good crop, mainly, as he believes, because he sows it nearly as soon as the snow is gone. Again, he says, the only way to beat witchgrass, with which his farm is well supplied, is to plough it in the fall. He showed us two sections of the same field, one of which was ploughed last fall and the other in the spring. Corn had just been taken from both, and both had been treated alike during the summer. On the piece ploughed last fall there was little witchgrass to be seen; but on the other there was excellent feed. The experience of such a man as this is worth very much, and it is doubly valuable when it is founded on established and acknowledged principles. We all know that the finer manure is pulverized the more readily it is appropriated by crops and the more valuable it is; and fine manure cannot, by any process, be got out of a new made heap in the spring.

But when left in a barn cellar until fall, it is easily reduced to a very fine state. A few hours' work with the manure fork and plough do the business. Then the extra cultivation which fall ploughing gives land—for land ploughed in the fall is harrowed at least once more than that ploughed in the spring---adds much to the crop. The suggestion that fall ploughing gives a man an early start in the spring, will be appreciated by all thrifty farmers who wish to keep ahead of their work and do not like to be driven by it. As a rule, farmers are less hurried late in the fall than early in the spring, and to bring over a part of the summer's work to fall is a good idea, especially if it can be done with the profit this man claims. As to the witchgrass, there is good hard sense in the theory that roots which are ploughed up and left upon or very near the surface in the fall will freeze to death before spring, and that those which are left by the plough eight or ten inches under ground, though retaining their vitality, will not reach daylight until the hoed crops cover the ground, and will help check and choke out the weeds; while roots brought to the surface and set out in the spring start right along; and stealing the manure which belongs to the crops make a vigorous growth before the crops get a start. —*Mirror and Farmer.*

CABBAGE UNDER A CLOUD.

We have now spent six summers here in a pleasant village of the Pusterthal, at an old baronial house, which anciently belonged to a noble family, but has now been for nearly two hundred years the property of a bauer, or peasant, who in this generation, with his two sons, his brother, three men servants, and the same number of women servants, cultivate the land, keep a good number of cows, a small flock of goats, and another of sheep, all of which go up in summer to the Alpine pastures. They are not rich, but, like everybody else here, have plenty for all their wants, though I am afraid they are able to lay but little money by. It was not of this however, that I wished to speak to you, but of a singular visitation which has this summer happened in this great Tyrolese valley, and which will prove a severe privation to them this winter, one of the crops which they all, rich and poor alike, grow yearly in cabbage, as well for their cattle in winter as for their own use in saur kraut. In the beginning of July the cabbage are planted out, to a great extent in their fields, and as autumn advances it is everywhere seen of a large and perfect growth. This year it was planted out as usual, rain came just at the right time, and the young plants took to the soil well and grew vigorously. Finer or more promising crops could not be seen. The unusually hot weather began, and with it one splendid morning, behold, what might have been mistaken for the commencement of a snowstorm! The air, as it was animated with white butterflies, attracted, in the first instance, as it seemed, to a fine blossoming plot of clover, to which adjoined the large, flourishing cabbage land, some acres in extent.

For many days this animated snow-shower contained millions upon millions of white butterflies; and not here only, but throughout all the district it was the same. My husband (William Howitt), who, though now in his 84th year, is as full of activity and energy as a young man, seeing instantly the mischief which these cabbage butterflies would do to the cabbage, warned the peasants all round, and recommended them to catch the butterflies and destroy them, and so lesson at least the plague which was at hand; and as practice was better than preaching, he took a butterfly net himself, and in a very short time caught and killed upward of 1,000. Of course his example had no effect; so the creatures were left to their own will, and in a week or two every cabbage leaf had a little round yellow spot upon it, which consisted of a hundred and upward of minute eggs. My husband now advised them to set their men and women servants to examine the cabbage, and carefully rub off these seeds of destruction. But they would not be persuaded, although in one or two solitary instances peasants who were poorer than their neighbors and had smaller plots, made use of these preventive means. Very shortly the eggs became animated. Cold weather suddenly followed the intense heat, the mountain tops were covered with snow, with a night or two of frost; but it made no difference to the caterpillars: they increased and grew day by day, and in a month's time the ruin was complete. The very sound of the ravenous creatures feeding might be heard, and as the entire cabbage fields assumed a livid, pale hue, and were one mass of skeleton leaves, the smell was most offensive. All is destroyed, and now the farmers are cutting them up. The land is being ploughed and sown with wheat or some other crop for next year.

Through the whole of this great valley of the Tyrol the plague extends, in some places less severely, but everywhere it presents a most melancholy feature in what otherwise is a landscape of singular beauty and prosperity. Our daughter, who, with her husband, has been spending part of the summer with us here, and has now returned to London, says that the plague seems to extend through the whole of the Tyrol to Munich, and onward through France, at least along that route. It is said here that a person, a trader of some sort, coming out of Italy into the Tyrol, saw for three days a perfect cloud of white butterflies proceeding from the South into these higher regions. Probably the extremely hot weather generated them in the South, and some instinct urged them northward. We notice that the few small plots which had been cleansed from the eggs remain green and flourishing, but they are now doomed to a later destruction from the myriads of caterpillars which are crawling over everything, fences, roads, grass fields, commons, always in the direction of the yet fair plots of cabbage. It is a sad sight, and one wishes, if human forethought and energy could save the product of so much honest industry, that the people could be put in the way of some sure means of help. It seemed, however, as if the legions of white butterflies damped their courage or their hope, for while they send for the Capuchin to sprinkle the land with holy water when the male cricket begins to ravage their crops, we have not yet heard that the priest has been called in to rid them of this plague, but I must do them the justice to say that they did themselves—some of them at least—sprinkle the unfortunate cabbage with petroleum and water, and also with wood ashes, but all to no effect.—[*Mary Howitt, Mayr-am-Hof, Deitenheim, Bruneck, Austrian Tyrol, Sept. 29, to Alderman Mechi of England.*

RAISING AND FEEDING SWINE.

Says the *Live Stock Journal*:—"If one thing needs reforming more than another, it is the manner of raising and feeding swine. From the day they are large enough to eat, they are offered all manner of refuse about the place, such as rank weeds, filthy slops, spoiled vegetables and meats, dead fowl, etc. They are allowed to rummage the dung yard and glean the refuse of food in the fieces of cattle and horses, on the ground of economy. But we imagine that the quantity of food saved in this way is very insignificant—not to exceed the value of a bushel of shelled corn a year among the whole stock on an ordinary sized farm. The objections to the practice of keeping swine in this way are so serious, however, that the reasons in favor of it have no force at all. The origin of trichinosis in swine may be always traced to the consumption of vile stuffs in the food, or being housed and yarded amid filth and foul air. Interests as dear as health and life require a thorough reform in keeping swine. Let their food be as pure as that which other animals consume; let them be kept in clean quarters and have pure air; let diseased or unthrifty animals be separated from those in health; and we may have no fears of trichinosis among either swine or human beings."

COMB FOUNDATIONS.

The *American Bee Journal* thus answers the question, What are comb foundations? "Take a piece of empty honey-comb and cut off all the cells, until nothing is left but the division wall of wax between the two opposite sets of cells and you have a comb foundation. The latest production, however, consists not merely of the dividing wall but also a slight depth of the cell walls, themselves, on each side, and these cell walls, although slight in depth, may be of such thickness as to contain enough wax, so that the bees may work out or prolong the cells to their full depth without any additional material. These comb foundations are given to the bees in their broad chamber, enough being put in a frame to fill it, in whole or in part, perhaps only a narrow strip being used for surplus honey, enough being given to fill the boxes, or merely enough to give the bees a start. The object is to save the time of the bees in secreting the wax, as also the honey used in its production. Another object is to secure all straight, worker comb, and still another to hasten the commencement of work in boxes when the bees are loth to enter them."

Stock Department.

PROPER TIME FOR SLAUGHTERING ANIMALS.

It has been discovered by a French chemist that the flesh of animals which are killed in the latter part of the night will keep much longer without salting than it will when they are killed in the day time. This proves that the flesh is better fitted for keeping when the life and blood are taken from the animal at the time the temperature is the lowest and respiration is the least active. Hence the reason that the flesh from animals that have been highly heated or hard driven will scarcely keep at all.

It is no new discovery that the meat of an animal killed after rest will keep better than that killed immediately after exercise. As animals rest in the night, the meat will, of course, be better in the morning.

The reason why the above facts are so is this: Exercise drives the blood to the extremities, and distributes it through all the veins. After rest, it gradually returns to the vitals, and circulates more sluggishly. Of course, if an animal is then killed, the arteries and large veins being cut, the blood is at once emptied. But, if he is killed while the blood is at the surface, distributed through the small veins, it will not be discharged. As blood corrupts sooner than flesh, the meat spoils.—*Prairie Farmer.*

The Poultry Interest.

SEX IN EGGS—BREEDING FOWLS.

In the spring of 1875 all the eggs that I set were candled, and none but those supposed to produce pullets were set. All the others were discarded. The result was just one-half cocks, and the other pullets. The eggs in 1876, for hatching, were taken just as laid without regard to sex, and the result was a large majority of cocks. Last year I pronounced the air-bladder system a humbug, but whether there be anything in it or not, a further trial must decide. Certain it is, I have a less proportion of pullets this year than last, and more cocks than I asked for, although they are very fine, much better than last year, both pullets and cocks. Where one is not in the egg business, that is, raising eggs for early winter and spring market, it does not pay to candle the eggs for setting. Where one only raises a very few choice ones for fancy, it is better to cull the breeders well and set eggs only from those that are up nearest to perfection, being particular to throw out all having any bad points, and be over scrupulous concerning the cock, as in breeding fine chicks much devolves on him.

A correct age is an important point, and this point varies with the different breeds. A young Spanish cock, with pullets, will produce a majority of cocks, and make scrawny poor chicks, often misshappen. Spanish breeders should at least be two years of age before laying hatching eggs, and they come to maturity slowly, and breeding birds should attain their full majority before allowed to breed, if fine chicks are required, and without fine chicks the stock is soon impoverished. With the Leghorn and smaller breeds early hatched pullets of the year before should be chosen for breeders, being over nice in the selection, especially concerning the male bird, as with thoroughbreds, the cocks take their form, style, plumage and size from him, and the pullets from the hen, consequently we should give a strong eye to the maternal parent, but it is highly necessary to have fine cocks, as poor ones are worthless, except for table use, and many times a pullet is just as good for market eggs if she be incapacitated for a breeder. The early eggs are best for hatching when the hen is in full strength and vigor, and are more likely to produce pullets. Both sexes should be as nearly matched as possible, and kept up in good heart throughout the breeding season, and never forced by unnatural means to give a large quantity of eggs. If so, many will be sterile, and a per centage of chicks will be worthless. Why is it that old fowls produce stronger, larger, finer birds, more easily reared than younger ones? Simply because they have come to full maturity, and do not lay so rapidly. The germ is not scattered through so large an ovary, thus imparting more strength and vitality. Never allow a surplus of cocks with your breeding hens. If one is a company, two makes a crowd, and one is a damage to the other and the virtue of both is destroyed or rendered worthless, besides between the two, the hens are worried and fagged, and their existence rendered barely tolerable.

Breeding yards should not be mere pens devoid of all greenness, and crowded and cramped into a small space with barely a square inch that is not littered over with their own droppings. If your limitations will afford it, give ample yards and have them furnished with shade, bushes and grass. One can form no idea what an amount of grass laying hens will consume in the course of a season. When they cannot have grass runs it is well to fodder them with fine cut grass, and in winter with soft lowland hay. It is surprising with what greed they will take hold of it. Anything that they crave and take with evident relish must be necessary to their well being, and when confined should be furnished them. Stock your yards with every convenience for the comfort and benefit of the occupants—clam shells, drinking vessels, nest-boxes, etc. Having done this, do not shut up your yards and walk deliberately in the house and think your labor is over. It is just begun. If you do not have a lasting stream in the yards, the birds should be given fresh drink at least twice each day, and be fed three times, as often on the smallest calculation as you feed yourself.—C. B., *in Country Gentleman.*

Questions & Answers.

MEADOW MUD.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

Seeing an inquiry in the *Ploughman* of Nov. 25th, in regard to the value of meadow mud as a fertilizer, and having had some little experience in a particular direction with mud as a fertilizer, I thought I would answer in a particular manner what you answered in a general manner. I have used meadow mud for several years, composting it with the very best horse manure (that had had pigs kept on it so as to keep it from burning,) that I could get in the market. I composted it with mud, cord for cord, in layers of three to four inches deep. When it became quite warm, almost hot, I would throw it over to keep it from burning, and when I have composted in June, I once had to throw it over three times to keep it from burning, it heating much hotter in June than it would in colder weather. I have used this compost for market gardening purposes with good results, and I believe *that it pays.*

I would say that the mud was very good mud. I think that the wood which formerly grew on the meadow was hard wood. I think that hard wood leaves make a much better quality of mud than cedar leaves, the mud from cedar leaves being flakey and light. A neighbor of mine once told me that there was as much difference between mud as it was thrown out of the meadow and mud that had been exposed to the frost and air and then heated with manure, or cooked as he expressed it, as there was between flour and cooked flour or bread; and judging from my experience I should say that there was, and I think that if V. E. W. would use good mud which had been exposed to the frost one winter, and compost and heat it with manure, that he will be *fully satisfied that it pays.*

A. W. H.

Abington, Nov. 29th, 1876.

WHEAT IN MASSACHUSETTS.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

What county in this State is best adapted for raising winter wheat? Yours truly,

Wellesley, Mass., Dec. 4, 1876. N. F. M.

Franklin and Berkshire counties take the lead in wheat culture, and the latter is perhaps better adapted to it, on the whole, than any other section of the State.—[ED.

The Sheepfold.

WRINKLED SHEEP.

At a recent meeting of the Illinois Wool-Growers' Association held at Ottawa during the State Fair, Mr. Samuel Archer, of Kansas City, Mo., responded to an invitation to make an address. In the course of his address he alluded to the subject of wrinkles on Merino sheep, about which there is a difference of opinion as to their influence on the sheep. Secretary Richmond has furnished an abstract of the address from which we take the following:

"The skin of the Merino has been well talked of and written about. Some want a full wrinkled skin, and breed for it; some want a smooth skin, and breed for that. Start out in breeding with a principle and adhere to it, or you will fail. Have watched the improvements. In 1854 and '55 wrinkles in the skin were most fashionable in Ohio and the Western States. We must breed them for the trade whether we want to or not. I would like to ask if it was not the wrinkly sheep that went down. They are of a strong constitution, do well when housed, but when the price of sheep ruled low, and they were not as well cared for as when high-priced, they could not stand the pressure, and died by the thousands. Smooth sheep with the same handling clip well. Sheep with deep wrinkles cannot be kept free from blow flies in warm weather. My experience with them is not good. They do not shear more wool, and are harder to shear. Smooth sheep shear as good clips. We should examine this subject closely, for it is one of the most important. Found the manufacturers threw whole fleeces of wrinkled sheep in as second class wool, on account of the jar in coarse hair invariably found in the wrinkled fleeces. I want to breed smooth sheep and no wrinkles."

Mr. D. Kelly, of Wheaton, Ill., agreed with Mr. Archer as regards wrinkled sheep. As a rule they are tender and weak, and of less constitutional vigor.

WOOL SUGGESTIONS.

It will always be best for a farmer to produce wool of one sort or the other. Wool that is neither one thing nor the other, neither long nor short, will not usually command a satisfactory price so readily as if it were either the wool clipped from Merino sheep or from the backs of some long-wooled breed. An intelligent dealer in wool assures us that good delaine wool should be at least three inches in length, and be a round strong staple. The practice of buying wool at an average price per pound, without regard to its quality or condition, is paying a premium for and encouraging the poor and dirty wool, for grease and filth cost but a trifle per lb. compared with choice, clean wool. Wool growers who raise wool above the average as to quality and condition can do better than to sell it an average price by sending it to a reliable commission merchant, where it will be sorted and sold according to its merits. This is a safe and satisfactory way to sell very good wool. It is not to be expected that wool buyers will advise farmers thus to dispose of their wool, for it deprives them of all the commission for buying, besides some twelve cents per pound extra in addition for all the delaine wool sorted out by them.—*N. Y. Herald.*

Floriculture.

SELF FERTILIZATION OF PLANTS.

Mr. Thomas Meehan, one of the most acute and thoughtful of American botanists, has, several times during the present year, brought before the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences, the subject of the fertilization of plants. He has observed that there are plants with conspicuous and attractive flowers, which are as much adapted to secure self fertilization, as other flowers are for cross fertilization. One of his examples is the greenhouse annual Browallia elata, belonging to the order Scrophulariacæ, having an attractive blue flower.

Another phenomenon, the "sleep of plants," or closing of the flowers at nightfall, has been found by Mr. Meehan to result in self fertilization in Claytonia Virginica, and some buttercups which seed abundantly in the absence of insects.

In Ranunculus bulbosa, in the evening following the first day's expansion of the flower, Mr. Meehan found the immature anthers, and the young pistils covered with pollen grains. On examining the flower he found that the outer series of anthers mature on the first day of opening, scattering the pollen on the glazed petals which, on closing for the night, drop it on the immature stamens and pistils as before noted. Another remarkable instance of self fertilization occurs in Ranunculus abortivus, which does not close its petels at night, but the slender pedicels droop, inverting the flower, and thus allow the pollen to drop on the stigmas. Mr. Meehan concludes that some deeper purpose than has yet been conceived, governs the fertilization of plants. In view of these examples Nature cannot abhor "in and in breeding," and it can hardly be that color, fragrance, and honeyed secretions in flowers have been developed solely to secure cross fertilization. Evolutionists will await with interest, further researches by Mr. Meehan, and confirmatory evidences from other inquirers.—*Nature.*

THE SWEET POTATO VINE.

The sweet potato vine is really desirable for the house, is a rapid grower, and much more delicate in appearance under house culture than when growing out of doors. Select (the earlier the better) a well ripened tuber of the Red Nansemond variety—said to be a most vigorous grower—eight or ten inches long and four or five inches in diameter. A dark colored hyancith glass is a suitable and pretty holder for the potato, but a common glass fruit can or small earthern jar will do. Fill the vessel with rain water and stand the potato in the mouth of it, allowing only two or three inches of the potato to go down into the water. Set it in a warm bright place to sprout, filling up the holder with water as fast as it evaporates. Probably a great many sprouts will start at once or in quick succession; break off all but three or four of these, as your vine will by so doing be much longer and more luxuriant. Nothing will now be needed for the perfection of the vine, except to keep the vessel filled with rain water.—*American Garden.*

HEAT FOR HOUSE PLANTS.

Most of our plants are injured by too much heat. For a general collection of house plants, it is not best to allow the thermometer to be above seventy, and if they could be kept in a room where the thermometer would usually not range much above sixty-five it would be much better. In the night time fifty is high enough. Give a little fresh air every fine day, and all the sunlight attainable. An effort should be made to give moisture to the atmosphere, for our own good, as well as the health of the plants. This can be done in various ways by evaporating water; but when plants are in a separate apartment, like a little green-house, it can be done more conveniently and effectually, although this separate apartment be only a bay window, with glass doors, separating it from the living room. In this, water can be used freely, by sprinkling, etc., and a moist atmosphere preserved. The temperature, with this arrangement, can be kept lower than would be comfortable in the living room, and the plants are saved from dust and many evils which we manage to endure and live, but which generally prove too much for the plants.—*Vick's Guide.*

THRESHING BEANS.

After pulling the vines I let them lay in the field a day or two until thoroughly cured. I then draw them to the barn in the heat of the day, while very dry, putting some old blankets over the rack if they shell much, and thresh immediately. I use a flail, but perhaps horses would do as well. A threshing machine would cut them. Beans become tough if packed away in a barn, and it would take three times the work to thresh them if left till winter; even a day or two makes quite a difference. Last year I used a fanning mill to clean them, and then hand-picked them, as I have never found a mill which would screen out the small beans. I take a fanning mill sieve, which is coarser than the screen, throw on a few handsful, enough to cover it, sift out the small stuff when you can readily pick out the bad beans, which leaves them perfectly clean, ready to cook. This can be done on rainy days or odd spells, and makes quite a difference in the price, hand-picked beans bringing 25 to 50 cents more. I raised three-fourths of an acre this year, drilled in the same as wheat, and mowed them with a scythe. I think it much less work than planting in hills as it saves so much cultivating, hoeing and pulling.—C. F., *in Ohio Farmer.*

Horticulture.

TOO MANY VARIETIES.

Ninety persons out of every hundred who set out fruit trees for home use or market, indulge in too many varieties. This one fatal error has ruined more fruit growers than all other causes combined. Nurserymen propagate their hundreds and thousands of sorts, simply because a majority of their customers do not know what they want and will not take the advice of men who do. The prevailing passion with the novice in fruit culture is to try as many varieties as possible, and we have known men who had "just begun," and with very little capital, to go into a nursery and undertake to make a short purse go a long way, by purchasing a tree or two of each variety, instead of acting the wiser part, selecting from a number of trees a few of the very best.

The man who cultivates fruit for profit had better confine himself to only a few, and those known to be adapted to his soil and climate. Our pomological, horticultural and agricultural societies are perhaps somewhat at fault in this matter, for they invariably offer the largest premium for the greatest number of varieties, and it is not strange that there should be some strife for the highest prize. The man who only exhibits a dozen varieties of pears by the side of another who spreads out a collection of two or three hundred, appears to be rather "small potatoes," although he may be in reality the more extensive cultivator of the two, and deserves more credit for possessing wisdom enough to avoid such indiscriminate planting of second rate sorts.—*Moore's Rural.*

ORCHARD MANURING.

There would seem to be no good reason why, if we wish to raise good orchard fruits, we should not manure our trees. People often look at trees growing on rocky hill-sides, and argue therefrom that trees can grow without manure. They know that potatoes and other vegetables must have manure or they will not thrive, but they regard trees as a different order of vegetation, something that can thrive and flourish where nothing else would. But, in the case of trees on rocky hillsides, the land is often anything but poor. The rocks themselves frequently contain valuable mineral matter, which, as the rock decays, is presented in a form that plants can feed upon. Then whatever vegetation grows among the rocks remains there to decay, and even leaves and other foreign substances that blow into the crevices formed by the rocks make a valuable plant-food, on which the tree thrives. Indeed, trees in apparently poor, rocky places are really much better off than many trees in orchards, where they are in what appears good land.

In more level land trees must be manured. In many cases, it is as necessary to the best success that trees have an occasional manuring as it is that any other crop should have manure. There have been many discussions as to whether manure for fruit trees should be applied broadcast or ploughed in. For orchard trees there is no rule; it depends on circumstances. If the trees are on ground where vegetables are grown, the manure is, of course, turned in for the benefit of these crops, and the roots of the fruit-trees fight with those of the vegetables for some of it, and get it, too. But there are many orchards, where no crops are grown but the trees, and then it is an excellent practice to apply manure as a top dressing at least every other year, if you would have them bear an abundance of good fruit.—*Boston Journal of Chemistry.*

Correspondence.

CORN WITH CHEMICAL FERTILIZER.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

In my last letter, I wrote you I was harvesting my corn and my yield was large; that I had made an experiment with Chemical Fertilizer, etc., and when harvesting was completed, might be I would communicate results to the *Ploughman.* I have now completed the harvest, measured the crop, and the result is quite satisfactory.

On one-half of my corn field I applied my usual dressing of 8 cords or 25 two horse loads of stable manure to the acre, which cost this year 8 dollars a cord on the field, 15 loads spread on the furrow and harrowed in and 10 loads laid in the hill. On the other half of the field I sowed broadcast on the furrow 1500 pounds of prepared Chemical Fertilizer which cost $13 and harrowed in same as the manure. I furrowed the field for planting 3 1-2 feet wide each way; on that part of the field dressed with manure, I planted 5 kernels of seed on the manure in the hill. On that part dressed with Chemical Fertilizer I also planted 5 kernels of seed to the hill in the furrow without any other fertilizer. That part planted on the manure came up about two days first and at hoeing time was 8 inches high, and that on Chemicals 1 or 1 1-4 inches shorter, or just perceptibly shorter than that planted on manure. Both parts of the field came up very even and nice, were alike of beautiful rich green color and each of very even height respectively. The field was now thinned to 4 stalks in the hill, the growth of that on manure continued to increase on that on Chemicals till the tassels pricked out at about 3 feet high, when that on Chemicals was about 6 inches shorter than that on manure. At this time both parts of the field retained their rich color and luxuriant growth, four or five days after the tassels came out of the corn planted on Chemicals. From this time the growth of that on Chemicals increased on that on manure until both came to the same height, which was about 10 feet. The silk came out of that on manure 5 or 6 days earlier than that on Chemicals and it also ripened about as many days earlier.

As the crop matured I noticed that the ears of that on manure were longer than the other, and that the yield would be larger, and the harvest proved my estimate correct. Both sections of the field were planted the same day, were hoed the same day, and hoed but once, except to pass through the field with a sharp hoe and strike down at the roots the few straggling weeds which sprung up after hoeing. Both sections ripened beautifully, and so rapidly that I did not stook it, but bound it in bundles as I usually do without top stalking.

I harvested the two sections separately, and the yield of that on manure is 90 bushels and a fraction of shelled corn, or 180 bushels of ears to the acre. That on chemicals is 76 bushels of shelled corn, or 152 bushels of ears to the acre.

I state the variations in the growth of the two sections of the field and the ripening of the crop as a matter of fact, without being able in any manner to account for it. There was a very much larger number of sweet ears than I ever saw before, and I think it reduced the yield of the crop full five bushels to the acre. The result is not unexpected to me, but very satisfactory. A few of the ears of my crop are sixteen inches long, some were fifteen inches and still more fourteen inches, and the average length of the ears of my crop is twelve inches.

Now for the value of Chemical Fertilizers. Will they increase the yield of succeeding crops? That is the question; I shall next year sow this field to barley and seed to grass. If the yield of barley is even over the whole field, and the yield of hay the same for three years, then Chemical Fertilizers are as good as stable manure.

J. H.

Shrewsbury, Nov. 24, 1876.

ST. ALBANS BUTTER MARKET.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

Perhaps the readers of the *Ploughman* would like to learn something of the St. Albans butter market, the prices of which are extensively quoted by all the leading papers in New England and New York.

St. Albans is the principal town in Franklin County, a region somewhat noted for its extensive dairying interests, now almost entirely devoted to the production of butter.

Market day is held at this place on Tuesdays, and is the occasion of a large gathering of people from different parts of the county, who come to dispose of their butter to the dealers who either live or come here for the purpose.

A considerable quantity of butter is purchased in different parts of the county on the Saturday and Monday preceding market day, and passes through St. Albans on Tuesday, being shipped along with that purchased here, principally for the Boston markets.

Perhaps a dozen or more of buyers may be seen on market days, as nearly all who are engaged in the business in the county are present as well as several from your city.

R. B. Kenerson, F. M. Marshall and O. C. Carter, representing different commission houses in Boston, are here every week, the first two having attended the markets regularly for a considerable number of years.

The weekly shipments range, we will say, from 100 to 2,000 as one's packages, of 50 pounds net, each. A large proportion of farmers dispose of their butter regularly through the season and find it better to do so than to keep it on hand for a considerable length of time.

There are some advantages in this method worth mentioning. Where the butter is disposed of from week to week, no risk is incurred as in long keeping; it goes to market in a fresher and altogether better condition, there is not so much danger from overstocking and there is not so much fluctuation in prices.

This way of selling must also be better for consumers, as a fresher and nicer article will almost invariably be obtained, while the same uniformity in prices should be maintained.

Of the quality of our dairy products, I will say nothing, only that a steady advance is being maintained, owing to improved methods of manufacture, while it is believed that the quantity per cow is annually increasing from careful management.

E. R. T.

Franklin Co., Vt., Dec. 1, 1876.

THE
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

To the Senate and House of Representatives.

In submitting my eighth and last annual message to Congress, it seems proper that I should refer to and in some degree recapitulate the events and official acts of

THE PAST EIGHT YEARS.

It was my fortune, or misfortune, to be called to the office of Chief Executive without any previous political training.

From the age of seventeen I had never even witnessed the excitement attending a Presidential campaign but twice antecedent to my own candidacy, and at but one of them was I eligible as a voter.

Under such circumstances it is but reasonable to suppose that errors of judgment must have occurred, even had not differences of opinion between the Executive, bound by an oath to the strict performance of his duties, and writers and debaters, have arisen.

It is not necessarily evidence of blunders on the part of the Executive because there are these differences of views.

MISTAKES HAVE BEEN MADE

as all can see, and I admit, but it seems to me, oftenest in the selections made of assistants appointed to aid in carrying out the various duties of administering the government.

In nearly every case selected without a personal acquaintance with the appointee, but upon recommendations of the Representatives chosen directly by the people. It is impossible, where so many trusts are to be allotted, that the right parties should be chosen in every instance.

History shows that the administration from the time of Washington to the present has not been free from these mistakes. But I leave comparisons to history, claiming only that I have acted in every instance from a conscientious desire to do what was rightly constitutional with the law and for the very best interests of the whole people. Failures have been errors of judgment, not of intent.

My civil career commenced, too, at a most critical and difficult time. Less than four years before the country had emerged from a conflict such as no other nation had ever survived.

Nearly one-half of the States had revolted against the government, and of those remaining faithful to the Union a large percentage of the population sympathized with the rebellion, and made an enemy in the rear almost as dangerous as the more honorable enemy in the front.

The latter committed errors of judgment, but they maintained them openly and courageously; the former received the protection of the government they would see destroyed, and reaped all the pecuniary advantage to be gained out of the then existing state of affairs; many of them by obtaining contracts and by swindling the government in the delivery of the goods.

Immediately on the cessation of hostilities, the then noble President who had carried the country so far through its perils, fell a martyr to his patriotism, at the hand of an assassin.

The intervening time to my first inauguration was filled up with wranglings between Congress and the new executive, as to the best mode of reconstruction.

Or to speak plainly, as to whether the control of the government should be thrown immediately into the hands of those who had so recently and persistently tried to destroy it, or whether the sections should continue to have an equal voice with them in this control.

RECONSTRUCTION,

as finally agreed upon, means this and only this, except that the late slave was enfranchised, giving an increase as was supposed to the Union by loving and Union supporting votes.

If free, in the full sense of the word, they would not disappoint this expectation.

Hence, at the beginning of my first administration, the work of reconstruction much embarrassed by the long delay virtually commenced.

It was the work of the legislative branch of the government. My province was wholly in approving their acts, which I did most heartily, urging the legislatures of States that had not yet done so, to ratify the Fifteenth Amendment to the Constitution.

The country was laboring under an enormous debt contracted in the suppression of rebellion, and taxation was so oppressive as to discourage production.

ANOTHER DANGER

also threatened us—a foreign war. The last difficulty had to be adjusted, and was adjusted without a war and in a manner highly honorable to all parties concerned.

THE TAXES

have been reduced within the last seven years nearly three hundred millions of dollars, and the national debt has been reduced in the same time over four hundred and thirty-five millions of dollars.

By refunding the six per cent. bonded debt for bonds bearing five and four and one-half per cent. interest respectively, the annual interest has been reduced from over one hundred and thirty millions of dollars in 1869 to but little over one hundred millions of dollars in 1876.

THE BALANCE

Of trade has been changed from over one hundred and thirty millions against the United States in 1869, to more than one hundred and twenty millions of dollars in our favor in 1876.

It is confidently believed that the balance of trade in favor of the United States will increase, not diminish, and that the pledge of Congress to resume specie payments in 1879 will be easily accomplished, even in the absence of much desired further legislation on the subject.

THE INDIANS.

A policy has been adopted towards the Indian tribes inhabiting a large portion of the territory of the United States which has been humane, and has substantially ended Indian hostilities in the whole land, except in a portion of Nebraska and Dakota, Wyoming and Montana Territories, the Black Hills region and approaches thereto.

Hostilities there have grown out of the avarice of the white man, who has violated our treaty stipulations in his search for gold. The question might be asked why the government has not enforced obedience to the terms of the treaty, which prohibited the occupation of the Black Hills region by whites. The answer is simple.

The first immigrants to the Black Hills were removed by troops, but rumors of rich discoveries of gold took into that region increased numbers.

Gold has actually been found in paying quantity, and an effort to remove the miners would only result in the desertion of the bulk of the troops that might be sent there to remove them.

All difficulty in this matter has, however, been removed, subject to the approval of Congress, by a treaty ceding the Black Hills and approaches to settlement by citizens.

The subject of the Indian policy and treatment is so fully set forth by the Secretary of the Interior and the Commissioners of Indian Affairs, and my views so fully expressed therein, that I refer to those reports and recommendations as my own.

OUR FOREIGN RELATIONS.

The relation of the United States with foreign powers continue on a friendly footing. Questions have arisen from time to time in the foreign relations of the government, but they have been happily free during the past year from the complications and embarrassments which have surrounded some of the foreign powers.

The diplomatic correspondence submitted herewith contains information as to certain of the matters which have occupied the government. The cordiality which attends our relations with the powers of the East has been plainly shown by the general participation of foreign nations in

THE EXHIBITION

Which has just closed, and by the exertions made by distant powers to show their interest and friendly feelings towards the United States in the commemoration of the Centennial of the nation.

The government and people of the United States have not only fully appreciated this exhibition of kindly feeling, but it may be justly and fairly expected that no small benefits will result both to ourselves and other nations from a better acquaintance and a better appreciation of our mutual advantages and mutual wants.

Congress at its last session saw fit to reduce the amount usually appropriated for foreign intercourse by withholding appropriations for representatives of the United States in certain foreign countries and for certain consular officers, and by reducing the amounts usually appropriated for certain other diplomatic posts, and thus necessitating change in the grade of the representative.

For these reasons immediately upon the passage of the bill making appropriations for the diplomatic and consular service for the present fiscal year, instructions were issued to the representatives of the United States at Bolivia, Ecuador, and Colombia, and to the consular officers for whom no appropriation had been made, to close their respective legations and consulates, and cease from the performance of their duties.

And in like manner steps were immediately taken to substitute charges d'affaires for ministers resident in Portugal, Denmark, Greece, Switzerland and Paraguay.

While thoroughly impressed with the custom of sound economy in the foreign service as in other branches of the government, I cannot escape the conclusion that in some instances the withholding of appropriations will prove an expensive economy, and that the small retrenchment secured by a change of grade in certain diplomatic posts is not an adequate consideration for the loss of influence and importance, which will attend our foreign representatives under this reduction.

I am of the opinion that a re-examination of the subject will cause a change in some instances in the conclusions reached on these subjects at the last session of Congress.

The Court of Commissioners of

ALABAMA CLAIMS,

Whose functions were continued by an act of the last session of Congress until the first day of January, 1877, has carried on its labors with diligence and general satisfaction.

By a report from the clerk of the court, transmitted herewith, bearing date Nov. 14, 1876, it appears that within the time now allowed by law the court will have disposed of all the claims presented for adjudication.

This report also contains a statement of the general results of the labors of the court to date thereof.

It is cause for satisfaction that the method adopted for the settlement of the classes of claims submitted to the court, which are of long standing and justly entitled to early consideration, should have proved successful and acceptable.

It is with satisfaction that I am enabled to state that the work of

THE JOINT COMMISSION

for determining the boundary line between the United States and the British Possessions, from the northeast angle of the Lake of the Woods to the Rocky Mountains, commenced in 1872, has been completed.

The final agreements of the commissioners with the maps, have been duly signed, and the work of the commission is complete.

The fixing of the boundary upon the Pacific coast by the protocol of March 10th, 1873, pursuant to the award of the Emperor of Germany, by article 34 of the Treaty of Washington, with the termination of the work of this commission, adjusts and fixes the entire boundary between the United States and the British Possessions, except as to the portion of territory ceded by Russia to the United States under the treaty of 1867.

The work entrusted to the commissioners, and the officers of the army attached to the commission, has been well and satisfactorily performed. The original of the final agreement of the commissioners, signed upon the 29th of May, 1876, with the original list of astronomical stations, observed the official list of monuments marking the International boundary line, and the maps, records and general reports relating to the commission, have been deposited in the Department of State. The official report of the Commissioner on the part of the United States, with the report of the Chief Astronomer of the United States, will be submitted to Congress within a short time.

THE SURRENDER OF CRIMINALS.

I reserve for a separate communication to Congress, a statement of the condition of the questions which lately arose with Great Britain respecting the surrender of fugitive criminals under the treaty of 1842.

TURKEY.

The Ottoman government gave notice, under date of January 15, 1874, of its desire to terminate the treaty of 1862, concerning commerce and navigation, pursuant to the provisions of the 22d article thereof.

Under this notice the treaty terminated upon the 5th day of June, 1876. That government has invited negotiations towards the conclusion of a new treaty. By the act of Congress of March 23, 1874, the President was authorized when he should receive satisfactory information that the Ottoman government or that of Egypt had organized new tribunals likely to secure to citizens of the United States the same impartial justice enjoyed under the exercise of judicial functions by diplomatic and consular officers of the United States, to suspend the operation of the act of June 22d, 1860 and to accept for citizens of the United States the jurisdiction of the new tribunals. Satisfactory information having been received of the organization of such new tribunals in Egypt, I caused a proclamation to be issued on the 27th of March last, suspending the operation of the act of June 22d, 1860 in Egypt, according to the provisions of the act. A copy of the proclamation accompanies this message.

The United States has united with the other powers in the organization of these courts. It is hoped that the jurisdictional questions which have arisen may be readily adjusted, and that this advance in judicial reform may be hindered by no obstacles.

THE SANDWICH ISLANDS TREATY.

The necessary legislation to carry into effect the convention respecting commercial reciprocity, concluded with the Hawaiian Islands in 1875, having been had, the proclamation to carry into effect the convention as provided by the act approved Aug. 15, 1876, was duly issued upon the 9th day of September last. A copy thereof accompanies this message.

MEXICO.

The commotions which have been prevalent in Mexico for some time past, and which, unhappily, seem to be not yet wholly quieted, have led to complaints of the citizens of the United States of injuries by persons in authority.

It is hoped, however, that these will ultimately be adjusted to the satisfaction of both governments. The frontier of the United States in that quarter has not been exempt from acts of violence by citizens of one republic on those of the other.

The frequency of these is supposed to be increased, and their adjustment made more difficult, by the considerable changes in the course of the lower part of the Rio Grande river, which river is a part of the boundary between the two countries.

These changes have placed on either side of that river portions of land which, by existing conventions, belong to the jurisdiction of the government on the opposite side of the river.

The subject of adjustment of this cause of difficulty is under consideration between the two Republics.

COLOMBIA.

The government of the U. S. of Colombia has paid the award in the case of the steamer Montijo, seized by the authorities of that government some years since, and the amount transferred to the claimants.

It is with satisfaction that I am able to announce that the Joint Commission for the adjustment of Claims between the United States and Mexico, under the convention of 1868, the duration of which has been several times extended has brought its labors to a close.

From the report of the agent of the United States, which accompanies the papers transmitted herewith it will be seen that within the time limited by the Commission, one thousand and seventeen claims on the citizens of the United States against Mexico were referred to the Commission of these claims eight hundred and thirty-one were dismissed or disallowed, and in one hundred and eighty-six cases awards were made in favor of the claimants against the Mexican Republic, amounting in the aggregate to four million one hundred and twenty-five thousand six hundred and twenty-two dollars and twenty cents.

Within the same period nine hundred and ninety-eight claims on the part of citizens of the Mexican Republic against the United States were referred to the commission. Of these claims 831 were dismissed or disallowed, and in one hundred and sixty-seven cases awards were made in favor of claimants against the United States, amounting in the aggregate to one hundred and ninety-eight dollars and forty-one cents.

By the terms of the convention the amount of these awards is to be deducted from the amount awarded in favor of our citizens against Mexico, and the balance only to be paid to Mexico by the United States, leaving the United States to make provisions for this proportion of the awards in favor of its own citizens.

I invite your attention to the legislation which will be necessary to provide for the payment.

In this connection I am pleased to be able to express the acknowledgments due to Sir Edward Thornton, the umpire of the commission, who has given to the consideration of the large number of claims submitted to him much time and unwearied patience, and that fairness and intelligence which are well known to belong to the accomplished representative of Great Britain, and which are likewise recognized by the representative in this country of the Republic of Mexico.

THE VENEZUELA CLAIMS.

Monthly payments of a very small part of the amount due by the government of Venezuela to citizens of the United States on account of claims of the latter against that government continue to be made with reasonable punctuality. That government has proposed to change the system which it has hitherto pursued in this respect by issuing bonds for part of the amount of the several claims. The proposition, however, could not, it is supposed, properly be accepted, at least without the consent of the holders of certificates of the indebtedness of Venezuela.

These are so much dispersed that it would be difficult, if not impossible, to ascertain their disposition on the subject.

In former messages I have called the attention of Congress to the necessity of legislation with regard to

FRAUDULENT NATURALIZATION,

and to the subject of expatriation and the election of nationality. The numbers of persons of foreign birth seeking a home in the United States, and the ease and facility with which the honest emigrant may, after the lapse of a reasonable time, become possessed of all the privileges of citizenship of the United States, and the frequent occasions with which induce such adopted citizens to return to the country of their birth, render the subject of naturalization and the safeguards which experience has proved necessary for the protection of the honest naturalized citizens of paramount importance.

The very simplicity in the requirements of law on this question, afford opportunity for fraud; and the want of uniformity in the proceedings and records of the various courts, and in the forms of the certificates of naturalization issued, afford a constant source of difficulty.

I suggest no additional requirements to the acquisition of citizenship beyond those now existing, but I invite the earnest attention of Congress to the necessity and wisdom of some propositions regarding uniformity in the records and certificates, and providing against the frauds which frequently take place, and for the vacating of a record of naturalization obtained in fraud. These provisions are needed in aid and for the protection of the honest citizen of foreign birth, and for the want of which he is made to suffer not infrequently.

The United States has insisted upon the right of

EXPATRIATION,

And has obtained, after a long struggle, an admission of the principle contended for by acquiescence therein on the part of many foreign powers and by the conclusion of treaties on that subject.

It is, however, but justice to the government to which such naturalized citizens have formerly owed allegiance, as well as to the United States, that certain fixed and definite rules should be adopted, governing such cases and providing how expatriation may be accomplished.

While emigrants in large numbers become citizens of the United States, it is also true that persons both native born and naturalized, once citizens of the United States, either by formal acts or as the effect of a series of facts and circumstances, abandon their citizenship, and cease to be entitled to the protection of the United States, but continue on convenient occasions to assert a claim to protection in the absence of provisions on these questions.

And in this connection I again invite your attention to the necessity of legislation concerning the marriages of American citizens, contracted abroad, and concerning the status of American women who may marry foreigners, and of children born of American parents in a foreign country.

The delicate and complicated questions continually occurring with reference to naturalization, expatriation and the status of such persons as I have above referred to, induce me earnestly to direct your attention to the subjects.

In like manner I repeat my recommendation that some means be provided for the hearing and determination of the just and subsisting claims of aliens upon the government of the United States within a reasonable limitation, and of such as may hereafter arise. While, by existing provisions of law, the courts of Claims may in certain cases resorted to by an alien claimant, the absence of any general provisions governing all such cases upon recognized, fixed and settled principles, either provides no remedy in many deserving cases, or compels a consideration of such claims by Congress or the executive departments of the government.

It is believed that other governments are in advance of the United States upon this question, and that the practice now adopted is entirely unsatisfactory.

COLORADO.

Congress, by an act approved the 3d day of March, 1875, authorized the inhabitants of the Territory of Colorado to form a State government with the name of the State of Colorado, and therein provided for the admission of said State, when formed, into the Union, upon an equal footing with the original States.

A constitution having been adopted and ratified by the people of that State, and the acting Governor having certified to me the facts as provided by said act, together with a copy of such constitution and ordinances as provided for in the said act, and the provisions of the said act of Congress having been duly complied with.

I issued a proclamation upon the 1st of August, 1876, a copy of which is hereto annexed.

THE WAR DEPARTMENT.

The report of the Secretary of War shows that the army has been actively employed during the year in subduing at the request of the Indian bureau, certain wild bands of the Sioux Indian nation and in preserving the peace at the south during the election.

The commission constituted under the act of July 24, 1876, to consider and report on the whole subject of reform and reorganization of the whole army, in August last, and has collected a large mass of statistics and opinions bearing on the subject before it.

These are now under consideration and their report is progressing. I am advised, though, by the President of the Commission, that it will be impracticable to comply with the clause of the act requiring the report to be presented through me to Congress on the first day of this session, as there has not yet been time for that mature deliberation which the importance of the subject demands.

Therefore I ask that the time of making the report be extended to the 29th day of January, 1877.

In accordance with the resolution of August 15, 1876, the army regulations prepared under the act of March 1, 1875, have not been promulgated, but are held until after the report of the above mentioned commission shall have been received and acted on. By the act of August 15, 1876, the cavalry force of the army was increased by 2500 men, with the proviso that they should be discharged on the expiration of the hostilities.

Under this authority the cavalry regiments have been strengthened, and a portion of them are now in the field pursuing the remnants of the Indians with whom they have been engaged during the summer. The estimates of the War Department are made up on the basis of the number of men authorized by law, and their requirements as shown by years of experience, and also with the purpose on the part of bureau officers to provide for all contingencies that may arise during the time for which the estimates are made.

Exclusive of engineer estimates presented in accordance with acts of Congress calling for surveys and estimates for improvements at various localities, the estimates now presented are about six millions in excess of the appropriations for the years 1874-5, 1875-6.

This increase is asked in order to provide for the increased cavalry force, should their service be necessary, to prosecute economically work upon important public buildings, to provide for the armament of fortifications and the manufacture of small arms, and to replenish the working stock in the Supply Department.

The appropriations for these last named have for the past two years been so limited that the accumulations in store will be entirely exhausted during the present year; and it will be necessary to at once begin to replenish them.

I invite your special attention to the following recommendations of the Secretary of War:

First—That the claims under the act of July 4, 1864, for supplies taken by the army during the war be removed from the offices of the Quartermaster and Commissary Generals and transferred to the Southern Claims Commission. These claims are of precisely similar nature to those now before the Southern Claims Commission, and the War Department Bureaus have not the clerical force for their examination, nor proper machinery for investigating the loyalty of claimants.

Second—That Congress sanction the scheme of an annuity fund for the benefit of the families of deceased officers, and that it also provide for the permanent organization of the Signal Office, both of which were recommended in my last annual message.

Third—That the manufacturing operations of the Ordnance Department be concentrated at three arsenals and an armory, and that the remaining arsenals be sold, and the proceeds applied to this object by the Ordnance Department. The appropriations for river and harbor improvements for the current year were $5,015,000.

With my approval the Secretary of War directed that of this amount, $2,000,000, should be expended and no new works should be begun, and none prosecuted which were not of national importance. Subsequently this amount was increased to $2,237,600, and the works are now progressing on this basis.

The improvement of the South Pass of the Mississippi river, under James B. Eads and his associates, is progressing favorably. At the present time there is a channel of 20 3-10 feet in depth between the jetties at the mouth of the pass, and 18½ feet at the head of the pass. Neither channel, however, has the width required before payments can be made by the United States.

A commission of engineer officers is now examining the sea works, and their reports will be presented as soon as received.

THE NAVY DEPARTMENT.

The report of the Secretary of the Navy shows that branch of the service to be in condition as effective as it is possible to keep it with the means and authority given the department.

It is of course not possible to rival the costly and progressive establishments of great European powers with the old material of our navy, to which no increase has been authorized since the war, except the eight small cruisers built to supply the place of others which had gone to decay.

Yet the most has been done that was possible with the means at command, and by substantially rebuilding some of our old ships with durable material, and completely repairing and refitting our monitor fleet, the Navy has been gradually so brought up that though it does not maintain its relative position among the progressive navies of the world, it is now in a condition more powerful and effective than it ever has been in time of peace.

The complete repairs of our five heavy ironclads are only delayed on account of the inadequacy of the appropriations made last year for the working bureaus of the department, which was actually less in amount than those made before the war, notwithstanding the greatly enhanced price of labor and materials, and the increase in the cost of naval service growing out of the universal use and great expense of steam machinery.

The money necessary for these repairs should be provided at once that they may be completed without further unnecessary delay and expense. When this is done all the strength that there is in our navy will be developed and useful to its full capacity, and it will be powerful for purposes of defence and also for offensive action should the necessity for that arise within a reasonable distance from our shores.

The fact that our navy is not more modern and powerful than it is, has been made a cause of complaint against the Secretary of the Navy by persons who at the same time criticise and complain of his endeavors to bring the navy that we have to its best and most efficient condition, but the good sense of the country will understand that it is really due to his practical action that we have at this time any effective naval force at command.

THE POSTOFFICE DEPARTMENT.

The report of the Postmaster General shows the excess of expenditures, excluding expenditures on account of previous years) over receipts for fiscal year ending June 30, 1876, $4,151,988.66. The estimated expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1878, are $36,723,432.43. Estimated revenue for the same period is $30,645,165, leaving an estimated excess of expenditure to be appropriated as a deficiency of $6,078,267.43.

The Postmaster General, like his predecessor, is convinced that a change in the basis of adjusting the salaries of postmasters of the fourth class is necessary for the good of the service as well as for the interests of the government, and urgently recommends that the compensation of the class of postmasters above mentioned be based upon the business of their respective offices, as ascertained from the sworn returns to the auditor of stamps canceled.

A few postmasters in the Southern States have expressed great apprehension of their personal safety, on account of their connection with the postal service, and have specially requested that their reports of apprehended danger should not be made public, lest it should result in the loss of their lives.

But no positive testimony of interference has been submitted, except in the case of a mail messenger at Spartanburg in South Carolina, who reported that he had been violently driven away while in charge of the mails, on account of his political affiliations as assistant superintendent of the Railway Mail Service.

An official investigated this case, and reported that the messenger had disappeared from his post, leaving his work to be performed by a substitute. The Postmaster General thinks this case is sufficiently suggestive to justify him in recommending a more severe punishment should be provided for the offence of assaulting any person in charge of the mails, or of retarding or otherwise obstructing them by threats of personal injury.

A very gratifying result is presented in the fact that the deficiency of this department during the last fiscal year was reduced to $4,081,790.18 as against $6,169,938.88 of the preceding year. The difference can be traced to the large increase in its ordinary receipts (which greatly exceed the estimates therefor;) and a slight increase in its expenditures.

The ordinary receipts of the Postoffice Department for the past seven fiscal years have increased at an average of over eight per cent. per annum, while the increase of expenditures for the same period have been but about five fifty per cent. per annum, and the decrease of deficiency in the revenues has been at the rate of nearly two per cent. per annum.

AGRICULTURE.

The report of the Commissioner of Agriculture accompanying this message, will be found one of great interest, marking as it does the great progress of the last century, in the variety of production of the soil, increased knowledge and skill in the labor of producing, saving and manipulating the same, to prepare them for the use of man in the improvements in machinery to aid the agriculturist in his labors, and in a knowledge of those scientific subjects necessary to a thorough system of economy in agricultural production, namely: chemistry, botany, entomology.

A study of this report by those interested in agriculture and deriving their support from it, will find it of value in pointing out those articles which are raised in greater quantity than the needs of the world require, and must sell therefore for less than the cost of production; and those which command a profit over cost of production, because there is not an over production.

I call special attention to the need of the department for a new gallery for the reception of the exhibits returned from the Centennial Exhibition, including the exhibits donated by many foreign nations, and to the recommendations of the Commissioners of Agriculture generally.

The reports of the District Commissioners and the Board of Health are just received; too late to read them and to make recommendations thereon, and are herewith submitted.

THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION

Held in Philadelphia, this year, in commemoration of the one hundredth anniversary of American Independence, has proven a great success, and will no doubt be of enduring advantage to the country.

It has shown the great progress in the arts, sciences and mechanical skill, made in a single century, and demonstrated that we are but little behind the older nations in any one branch, while in some we scarcely have a rival.

It has served, too, not only to bring our people and products of skill and labor from all parts of the world together, but in bringing together people from all sections of our own country, which must prove a great benefit in the information imparted and the pride of country engendered.

It has been suggested by scientists interested in a communication herewith, that the government exhibit be removed to the capital and a suitable building be erected or purchased for its accommodation as a permanent exhibit.

I earnestly recommend this, and believing that Congress would second this view, I directed that all government exhibits at the Centennial Exhibition should remain where they are, except such as might be injured by remaining in a building not intended as a protection in inclement weather or such as may be wanted by the department furnishing them, until the question of permanent exhibition is acted on.

Although the moneys appropriated by Congress to enable the participation of the several executive departments in the International Exhibition of 1876, were not sufficient to carry out the undertaking to the full extent at first contemplated, it gives me pleasure to refer to the very efficient and creditable manner in which the board appointed from these several departments to provide an exhibition upon the part of the government have discharged their duties with the funds placed at their command without a precedent to guide them in the preparation of such a display.

The success of their labors was amply attested by the sustained attention which the contents of the Government Building attracted during the period of the exhibition, from both foreign and native visitors. I am strongly impressed with the value of the collection made by the government for the purposes of the exhibition, illustrating as it does the mineral resources of the country, the statistical and practical evidences of our growth as a nation and the uses of the mechanical arts and the applications of applied science in the administration of the affairs of government.

Many nations have voluntarily contributed their exhibits to the United States, to increase the interest in any permanent exhibition that Congress may provide for. For this act of generosity they should receive the thanks of the people, and I respectfully suggest that a resolution of Congress to that effect be adopted.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS.

The attention of Congress cannot be too earnestly called to the necessity of throwing some greater safeguard over the method of choosing and declaring the election of a President. Under the present system there seems to be no provided remedy made for contesting the election in any one State.

The remedy is partially no doubt in the enlightenment of the electors; the compulsory support of the free school, and the disfranchisement of all who cannot read and write the English language—after a fixed probation—would meet my hearty approval.

I would not make this apply, however, to those already voters, but I would to all becoming so after the expiration of the probation fixed upon. Foreigners coming to the country to become citizens who are educated in their own language would acquire the requisite knowledge of ours during the necessary residence to obtain naturalization.

If they did not take interest enough in our language to acquire sufficient knowledge of it to enable them to study the institutions and laws of the country intelligently, I would not confer upon them the right to make such laws nor to select those who do.

I append to this message for convenient reference

A SYNOPSIS

of administrative events and of all recommendations to Congress made by me during the last 7 years. Time may show some of these recommendations not to have been wisely conceived.

I believe the larger part will be no discredit to the administration. One of these recommendations met with the united opposition of one political party in the Senate, and with a strong opposition from the other—namely, the treaty for the annexation of Santo Domingo to the United States, to which I shall specially refer, maintaining as I do that if my views had been concurred in, the country would be in a more prosperous condition to-day, both politically and financially.

Santo Domingo is fertile, and upon its soil may be grown just those tropical products of which the United States use so much, and which are produced or prepared for market now by slave labor almost exclusively, namely, sugar, coffee, dye woods, mahogany, tropical fruits and tobacco. About 75 per cent. of the exports of Cuba are consumed in the United States.

A large percentage of the exports of Brazil also find the same market. These are paid for almost exclusively in coin, legislation, particularly in Cuba, being unfavorable to a mutual exchange of the products of each country.

Flour shipped from the Mississippi river to Havana can pass by the very entrance to the city on its way to a port in Spain, there pay a duty fixed upon articles to be re-exported, transferred to a Spanish vessel and brought back almost to the point of starting, paying a second duty and still leave a profit over what would be received by direct shipment. All that is produced in Cuba could be produced in Santo Domingo. Being a part of the United States, commerce between the island and the mainland would be free. There would be no export duties on her shipments, nor import duties on those coming here. There would be no import duties upon the supplies, machinery, &c., going from the States. The effect that would have been produced upon Cuban commerce with these advantages to a rival is observable at a glance.

The Cuban question would have been settled long ago in favor of "free Cuba." Hundreds of American vessels would now be advantageously used in transporting the valuable woods and other products of the soil of the island to a market, and in carrying supplies and emigrants to it. The island is but sparsely settled, while it has an area sufficient for the profitable employment of several millions of people. The soil would have soon fallen into the hands of United States capitalists. The products are so valuable in commerce that emigration there would have been encouraged.

The emancipated race of the South would have found there a congenial home, where their civil rights would not be disputed and where their labor would be so much sought after that the poorest among them could have found the means to go.

Thus, in cases of great oppression and cruelty, such as has been practised upon them in many places within the last eleven years, whole communities would have sought refuge in Santo Domingo. I do not suppose that the whole race would have gone, nor is it desirable that they should go.

Their labor is desirable, indispensable, almost, where they now are, but the possession of this territory would have left the negro master of the situation, by enabling him to demand his rights at home, on pain of finding them elsewhere. I do not present these views now as a recommendation for a renewal of the subject of annexation, but I do refer to it to vindicate my previous action in regard to it.

With the present Congress my official life terminates. It is not probable that public affairs will ever again receive attention from me further than as a citizen of the Republic, taking a deep interest in the honor, integrity and prosperity of the whole land.

U. S. GRANT.

Executive Mansion, Dec. 5, 1876.

FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.

THE TURKISH IMBROGLIO—A MORE WARLIKE OUTLOOK.

London, Dec. 3.—A Berlin despatch to the Times says that the mobilized Russian regiments are being successively sent south. In the latter half of December 250,000 armed men will be on the Pruth, ready to cross. Eighty-four military hospitals have been formed, capable of receiving 52,000 men. In several provinces of Russia the inhabitants have been ordered to furnish lists of plate and other silver articles in their possession. It is supposed that in event of a long war the metals will be seized and scrip be given in return.

A despatch from Pesth says it is reported there that the Turks are making preparations for the struggle with terrible earnestness. Formidable fortifications are going up at Widin, Rustchuk, Sillistria and Schumia, and artillery is being sent to those places. The Russians are hurrying their preparations to take the field. The troops which were quartered around Kirtschenoff were to have been concentrated on the Pruth by December 1.

A special from Odessa to the Daily News reports that the Porte sent a circular in reply to Prince Gortschakoff, which is not favorable to peace. The Turks are pushing forward their new constitution, although repeatedly warned that they are attempting to anticipate the conference. They are also using every effort to induce the Greeks and Armenians to make a demonstration in favor of the Turks.

The Vienna correspondent of the Times says that, with the view of regulating the co-operation of Servia and Montenegro with Russia, diplomatic agents have been sent by the two former to St. Petersburg. General Tchernayeff is also on the way to that city with his staff officers. Montenegro is in position to furnish 18,000 men, and 5,0000 roubles is said to be the subsidy she receives. The Montenegrin army is to be reassembled December 24. In the face of these transactions Russia repudiates the intention of promoting Panslavic aspirations.

A telegram from Zara reports that the Miridites have taken up arms in favor of the Montenegrins, and the order for the removal of Turkish troops from the vicinity of the town, therefore, have been suspended.

The Opinione (newspaper) of Rome says the Marquis of Salisbury's declarations exclude the idea of England's going to war with Russia, but it regards war between Turkey and Russia as inevitable. The Times financial article remarks that a similar impression was almost universal on the London stock exchange yesterday.

VIEWS OF PRINCE BISMARCK.

Berlin, Dec. 2.—Bismarck gave a parliamentary dinner yesterday, at which he made a speech wherein he promised to make a statement upon the political situation at the debate in the Bundesrath upon reading the estimates. Bismarck laid stress repeatedly upon the neutral attitude Germany would assume in the event of warlike complications arising. The weight which he attaches to Germany's relations with Austria took a particularly prominent place. He said the preservation of peace ought not yet to be despaired of; but if war ensues, which certainly seems probable, Russia and Turkey will after a time tire of it. Then Germany will be able to mediate with better prospects of success than now. Advice to Russia now would anger the Russian nation, which would be worse than a passing dispute with a government. He hoped England would not wage open war against Russia, but, at the most, a sort of unofficial warfare, similar to Russia's proceedings in Servia. If Austria's existence is threatened, Germany would support her, thus unselfishly continuing to act like lead in the framework which causes a puppet to stand upright. Austria, moreover, possesses greater vitality than most people think.

MARSHAL CONCHA ON THE PROPOSED CUBAN LOAN—A RECOMMENDATION.

Madrid, Dec. 3.—In the Senate yesterday, Marshal Concha attempted to demonstrate the uselessness of the loan for Cuba. He censured the despatching of excessive naval forces to Cuba to conquer 5000 insurgents, but admitted the difficulty of exterminating the insurgents on account of their peculiar warfare, and because they had to be combated in the woods and kept there.

The minister of foreign affairs reported that Marshal Concha had not fulfilled while in Cuba any of the pledges he made when appointed commander in chief of the island.

THE EASTERN QUESTION—LATEST ASPECT OF AFFAIRS.

London, Dec. 4.—The *Times'* Berlin despatch reports that nearly all the Turkish troops have left Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Porte having determined not to resist the occupation of those provinces by Austria in case of war. Austria has ordered the occupation of the Transylvanian and Moldavian passes the moment the Russians enter Moldavia. The language of Russian diplomacy has become milder the last few days. Occupation is no longer represented as the only panacea.

DISASTROUS FLOODS IN THE BRITISH ISLES.

London, Dec. 4.—A terrific gale has prevailed throughout the British isles since Saturday. Floods are reported in many places, and have caused much damage. There is a great number of disasters to shipping on the coast, with considerable loss of life. The waters of the Thames are very high, and a serious overflow is feared.

Shields, Dec. 4.—The freight-steamer Prince foundered in the storm. All on board, fourteen in number, were lost.

The Ploughman.

BOSTON, SATURDAY, DEC. 9, 1876.

☞ The 10th annual meeting of the Milk Producers' Association of Massachusetts and New Hampshire, will be held on Tuesday, 12th inst., in Wesleyan Hall, Bromfield Street, Boston, at 9½ o'clock, A. M.

The New Season.—Winter having fairly set in, the concerts, lyceums, theatres and other recreating agencies have begun their work in good earnest, and people are visiting the places of legitimate amusement very freely. Although the times are dull and the prospects of business have been put further away by current doubts and apprehensions, people are disposed to be patient and to make the best of a situation which they cannot instantly remedy. The appearance of the renowned Russian pianist, Essipoff, next week, gives a positive start to the interest that rules in all musical circles. The lectures on foot are popular, and the readings and recitations scarcely less so. The amusements are well patronized also, as people find a relief in attending them. Christmas is just ahead, too, and that gives a sparkle and start to the general sentiment.

The State Board Meeting at Worcester showed a larger attendance than any similar gathering, a fact that speaks most encouraging for the interests of agriculture in Massachusetts and New England. The quality of the essays and discussions is better understood from the impression left on the minds of those present, as well as from the interest excited by their subsequent perusal in the columns of the *Ploughman*. The Institute was a success in the largest and truest sense. It advanced the good work very far beyond the point at which it took it up. The people of Worcester showed a measure of hospitality and a degree of courtesy to the assembly that, although to be expected from the well-known character of the city, was still a most pleasurable and constant surprise. Few New England cities can successfully compete with Worcester for her reputation in this respect. We confidently hope to chronicle a long series of similar meetings in the same city, which is in every real sense "the heart of the Commonwealth."

Going to the Pole.—The latest returns, so to speak, from the polar regions rather go to convince us that man has done about all he can fairly expect to do in the work of investigating the very high latitudes. Whether the immediate vicinity of the North Pole is an open sea or a solid body of ice, we shall probably never know in our day and generation. Nor does it yet appear to be of any practical use that we should know further about it. There is certainly nothing to be gained to commerce by it, nor does science pretend that it would be helped by any additional discoveries. There seems to be at least one mystery about the surface of our globe which Providence does not intend that we shall penetrate. The severe sufferings endured by explorers so far do not appear to encourage further experiments in a northern direction.

MEETING OF CONGRESS

The annual assembling of this body occurred on Monday, under circumstances of extraordinary interest. The House chose Mr. Randall, of Pennsylvania, Speaker, and the Senate organized under its old officers. The President's Message, which we give elsewhere, was sent in on Tuesday, and read in the presence of each House. It will be found to be a brief document, with some matter that is of a personal character. It is the last annual Message that President Grant will send to Congress, and he concludes it with a brief reference to his approaching retirement. The Report of the Secretary of the Treasury was also sent to the House on Tuesday, and supplies many points of public interest. The other Department Reports have likewise been made according to custom.

Business has not yet begun in either branch of Congress, the main feature being a discussion on the subject of sending committees of investigation into the three disputed Southern States. It is generally believed that less actual public business will be transacted during this session than during any other in our history. But there are appropriations to be made, supplementary to those voted at the last session, and there are certain routine duties that must be discharged in order to keep the Government in practical operation. There is no question that upon the doings of this session now begun hang exceptionally important results for the country. All good citizens pray for the prevalence of a spirit of harmony, that disputes may be composed without resort to methods which will chiefly disprove the reality of a popular government.

EUROPE.

The situation in the East has not greatly changed within the week. There are few, if any, indications, however, that the design of Russia has undergone any modification in respect to Turkey. That her one objective point is Constantinople and a Southern outlet or not, it is evident that none of the jealous watchfulness of England will be relaxed so long as movements are making from the north in a Southern direction. Of the numerous secret complications among the cabinets of the different Powers little can of course be known, and consequently but little can be positively predicted. It can only be said that there appears to be a substantial understanding between Germany and Russia, and that Austria is in a state of uncertainty as regards both, while her Hungarian associations are more than a source of apprehension.

A review of the entire European field shows that the main thought of the public mind is war. All business enterprise is stayed and general stagnation prevails. One day, everything hangs on the will of Russia; the next, it is what Turkey may choose to do or refuse to do. It is a state of chronic inflammation now, which it will take but little to excite beyond the control of the average reason. The present condition of affairs is decidedly favorable to the general interests on this side of the Atlantic, and with ordinary management can be turned to good account. It is certain, for one thing, that there is to be a good demand for our wheat and other products, from the exportation of which American farmers ought to derive solid profits. That war will sooner or later be precipitated between Russia and Turkey is the evident opinion of European statesmen and diplomatists. In that event, the chances are more than even that, first, England and then Austria will be drawn in. American commerce will then have its chance.

A HOLOCAUST.

The burning of the Brooklyn Theatre on Tuesday night, while packed with people intent on the evening's performance, sends a thrill of horror to all hearts. We have no calamity of the kind to chronicle for this century before. The burning of the Richmond Theatre in 1818 did not involve the destruction of so many lives as is reported at the time of writing, in consequence of the Brooklyn fire. It is truly a dreadful catastrophe to try to contemplate. By the most intense dwelling upon it as it occurred, the mind can scarcely even then take in the complete mastery of the soul by terror seems to overwhelm one in a moment, and make them forget what they owe to one another, and especially the sex they are bound always to protect.

The story of trampled females, powerless in that dreadful rush for life which began with the first intimation of fire, is one which we cannot dwell. It only breaks down the barriers which are again and again set up for faith in the innate nobility of human nature. Such an event as this is not a more appalling visitor in the community in which it occurred than in the larger community that is touched by human sympathy. It fairly unmans one with its dreadful features. Again and again has the subject of easy egress from places of popular amusement been discussed in New York and Boston, and now comes this dire sacrifice of human life to warn us of the peril of being sluggish in the performance of our common duty.

The Old South Relics.—As a means of increasing the fund for the preservation of this historic edifice, there is at present to be seen within the walls of that building a most interesting collection of Revolutionary relics, which all persons visiting Boston can hardly afford to neglect. The former price of admission, fifty cents, has been reduced one-half, thus making it almost like throwing open the doors to the public. Hundreds are now viewing these relics daily, and gratifying a curiosity that only grows stronger with each passing generation. We shall not attempt a recital of those articles which so many persons have kindly offered for the inspection of the public. They are numerous and many of them of a priceless value. To see objects that were familiarly used by the Washingtons, Warrens, Franklins and other historic persons whose memory has long become consecrated, is like bringing their forms distinctly before us again. We are glad to know that the public is contributing freely towards the increase of the Old South fund by the support of this most worthy and appropriate exhibition.

Moody in Chicago.—The revival work in this western capital, which has been going on under the hands of Moody and Sankey, the evangelists, has testified abundantly to the remarkable power of these two most remarkable men. None ever worked harder than they have done for the salvation of souls. The work of Divine grace is making itself visible among lawyers, merchants, doctors, artisans, and the laboring classes. In fact, it is as general as almost to have taken possession of the city's population. The telegraph has been freely employed to increase the interest in these meetings while they were being held, a novel idea, but a most effective one, as it has proved. The accounts all concur in saying that Mr. Moody's work is bearing its legitimate fruits. There are morning meetings, noon-day prayer meetings, afternoon sessions at 3 o'clock, and evening meetings at 8 o'clock. So that the entire day is occupied. Some of the most hardened men of the world have felt the regenerating power of Moody's evangelical preaching and Sankey's stirring hymns, and it is as if miracles had been wrought in open day.

Railroad Building.—According to the true reports of the railroad interests of the country it appears that there has been a decided revival of railroad building during the year now closing. Some two thousand miles of new railroads have been constructed so far, which is almost double the amount reported for the same time in 1875. The Railway Age concludes from this encouraging showing that the panic has fully spent its force, and that railway building has already been resumed with new vigor and confidence. If so much new road can be constructed in two months, while business is languishing, or at least uncertain and hesitating, what is fairly to be inferred for the coming year, after all our present doubts and apprehensions shall have been peacefully removed? It is a cheerful side of the times, and we present it as such with gladness accordingly.

Cremation.—Baron Von Palm died in New York last May, and was duly embalmed. He expressed a request in his will that his remains should be burned to ashes, and the novel task was performed this week at Washington, Penn., in a furnace expressly built for that purpose by Dr. Le Moyne. This is intended to be, as a beginning, the revival of an ancient custom, with which our modern public is not yet supposed to be very much in love. People naturally incline to look with favor on that which they are chiefly accustomed to, and the practice of burial has now become so thoroughly a part of the mortuary rites of our civilization that it would be next to impossible to abolish it altogether. When the human body is buried out of sight, it is given back to the sweet earth from which it originally sprang, and we see no more of it; but our sensibilities receive a serious shock at beholding the burning of a body with which our tenderest thoughts and feelings are associated. We have no idea, therefore, that cremation is going to become popular.

Russia and Privateering.—There is a story current that Russia has asked permission to send her navy to American waters, in which to fit out her vessels as privateers, in the event of war with England over Turkey. There is also another rumor afloat, to the effect that American shipowners will ask Russia for letters of marque and reprisal, with which to fit out privateers to prey on British commerce in the event of such a war. But by such a step Russia would entirely repudiate the Treaty of Paris of 1856, to which she was a party. That would absolve England and all the other signing powers from their obligations, and lay Russia open to most serious incursions from all sides. It is extremely doubtful if she would take a step like that at this time. She will have enough to attend to without shouldering needless jobs.

New Hampshire Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.—The annual meeting of the New Hampshire society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals was held at Portsmouth, Monday evening, Dec. 4, re-electing ex-Mayor T. E. O. Marvin President, Vice-Presidents Mrs. Chas. Burroughs, Dr. Daniel H. Pierce and nine others, Alonzo F. Craig Secretary, Miss Mary A. Foster, Treasurer, with a board of 15 directors. The annual report of the Secretary was read, showing that the Society has done most efficient work in relieving suffering.

Milk Producers' Meeting.—*Mr. Editor:* The attention of the readers of the *Ploughman* will be called this week to a notice of the annual meeting of the Milk Producers' Association, and from information derived from reliable sources, I am confident that this will be the most important meeting that it has ever held. Both dealers and producers feel satisfied that there must be a radical change in the whole business, and consequently [illegible] to report in print at an early day, a plan for future action. All persons interested either in or out of the association should not fail to be present at the meeting.

S. B.

There is just criticism made on our modern magazine literature that it tends to words, or to the tricks of language, more than to substantial instruction through the presentation of facts and attractive combinations of them. There seems to be a call for a fresh and powerful writer who shall combine in his productions what will relieve the public attention from such prolonged dwelling on linguistic inanities and verbal trickeries.

A petition is to be presented to the next Legislature for the incorporation of the Boston and Chicago Trust Co., with a capital of thirty-five millions of dollars, the object of which is to purchase the railroads to the New York line and to lease and operate them in connection with a consolidated line of railway to Lake Ontario and the West.

☞ If success be the true test of *merit*, it is certainly well established that *Brown's Bronchial Troches* have no equal for the prompt relief of Coughs, Colds, and Throat Diseases. They are [illegible] the irritation [illegible] from Bronchial difficulties. [illegible] the demand for them is constantly increasing.

☞ During the six months' continuance of the Centennial Exhibition the Pennsylvania Railroad carried over 3,500,000 passengers. To accomplish this the company ran 22,542 trains, composed of 144,264 cars, with over 3000 attendants, and was compelled to borrow cars.

THE MAIN EXPOSITION BUILDING.

HOW IT WAS SOLD AT AUCTION.

Mr. Ellis, the auctioneer, said: "Gentlemen, we will now offer to sell the Main Building." Mr. Jennings read the terms of sale: "Possession will be given on the 1st of March, or before, at the option of the Board of Finance. The purchaser must be prepared to remove the building within six months, or sooner if the weather permits. Twenty-five per cent will be paid at the time of sale, and the balance within thirty days at our house in town." Mr. Jennings sat down. Mr. Ellis: "We will now start the Main Building. What's bid?" "One hundred thousand dollars!" "Two hundred thousand!" A pause. "Do I hear three? three hundred thousand dollars—three hundred thousand." Mr. Richard J. Dobbins, the well-known contractor who erected the building, said: "Two hundred thousand dollars." A pause, and then a sharp voice: "Two hundred and fifty thousand dollars!" The bidder was Mr. John S. Morton, President of the West Philadelphia passenger railroad company, and a director of the permanent exposition company. "Two hundred and fifty thousand—two hundred and fifty thousand dollars." A pause. Then from the auctioneer, "Who bids more? Are you all done?" The auctioneer turned to Mr. Welsh. Mr. Welsh, with evident concern, waved a negative. Mr. Ellis: "Two hundred and fifty thousand dollars—once—twice—going—going—gone!" And so the Main Building, which cost over $1,600,000, was knocked down for two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, and passed from the hands of the Centennial Board of Finance to the permanent exhibition company, and thus the magnificent project that they have so successfully inaugurated will now help to raise Philadelphia to the proud position of the foremost city in the western world. Mr. Morton promptly stepped to Mr. Jennings's desk and paid down twenty-five per cent. of the purchase money, and as the audience began to disperse the announcement was made that the purchaser had bought the building "for the permanent exhibition." The announcement, it is hardly necessary to say, was received with prolonged applause.—*Philadelphia Press.*

READ AND RUN.

— Thanksgiving was as generally observed this year as ever, but it is visibly putting off its old associations and clothing itself with the life of the present time.

— The late Gen. Custer's biography is soon to appear.

— Congress and the State Legislatures are about to make public business enough for the winter.

— The Chicago *Tribune* says it is convinced, on careful inquiry, that the country people in the West are hoarding their silver change.

— The extravagant habits entailed by University life in England let the London Telegraph to say that "colleges, after all, are for the great majority of undergraduates nothing more nor less than enormously expensive boarding-schools, the masters of which seem to do little towards looking after them and keeping them out of mischief."

— A mass of conflicting testimony was taken by the Congressional Committee on Chinese Emigration at San Francisco, and it is extremely questionable if it is able to propose any definite recommendations to Congress.

— Venders of prize packages of candy and other things fail to be included in the lottery laws of England. A judge has recently so decided.

— The anti-vaccination fever is making its appearance in various parts of England.

— The British public is protesting with all its native vigor against the appearance of larks in the poulterers' shops.

— The late visit of Dom Pedro to this country promises to result in the establishment of two steamship lines to Brazil.

— The entire French Ministry resigned, in consequence of a crisis in the cabinet.

— Bismarck gives it as his opinion that there will be war between Russia and Turkey. He expects that England will side with the latter about as Russia did with Servia.

— A seizure was made last week, in New York, of a whiskey still, illicit, of one thousand barrels daily capacity.

— Now they say the all-devouring grasshopper is on the way to Florida, to pass the winter in the orange groves and sing his melancholy refrain to the sentimental alligator.

— The public debt shows an increase of half a million dollars for November.

— The Rev. Mr. Spurgeon speaks out thus:—"Let the buttons be on the shirts, let the children's socks be mended, let the roast mutton be done to a turn, let the house be as neat as a new pin, and the home as happy as a home can be."

— It has cost the New York newspapers already several thousand dollars to get up their health bulletins about Vanderbilt.

— A St. Louis judge committed suicide because he was defeated for a re-election.

— A new magazine about to be issued is to be called Prometheus.

— A single bank vault in New York contains millions of idle capital.

— Boston is in the midst of her annual municipal election excitement, and there is very little excitement at that.

— Exhibition buildings at the Centennial grounds that originally cost two and a half millions of dollars bought at auction only three hundred thousand.

— Boffin's Bower is going to have its annual fair soon, for the benefit of the poor sewing girls.

— Sankey is compiling a new hymn book.

— The French make the best waiters, according to the judgment of Delmonico.

— They have had a valiant fox-hunt in a ploughed field near New York, on Thanksgiving morning.

— Flora Temple, the renowned trotter, is now thirty-one years old and very feeble. She is well cared for near Philadelphia.

— Wm. W. Corcoran, Esq., of Washington, has just given $50,000 to the University of Virginia, to endow the schools of History, Literature and Moral Philosophy.

— In April last, a pair of young horses in Greene, R. I., ran off with the neck-yoke hanging between them, and could not be found anywhere. A few days ago their skeletons were discovered in a wood seven miles distant. The neck-yoke and bones showed that they were caught fast in the brush, and after eating everything within reach had starved to death.

— Worth, the man-milliner of Paris, from whose hands all ladies are proud to receive a dress or suit, is an Englishman by birth, and went to Paris to learn the trade he has since followed with such remarkable success.

— The skating has been excellent around the city within the week, and boys and men have been eager to test it.

— Mrs. Horace Goodwin, formerly of Hartford, the widow of the old Commander of the Putnam Phalanx, is at present a resident of Boston, and possesses a good collection of Revolutionary relics.

— The continued good order that prevailed on the Centennial grounds during the months of the Exhibition has been the subject of emphatic praise.

— Winter came in sharp and smart, did it not? Wonder if it expects to carry out that style of programme to the end.

— Brookline is going to try again before the Legislature for annexation to the city. The city is all ready to receive her.

— Spurgeon, the London preacher, is reported very ill.

— There are plenty of partridges and quails, but woodcock are called scarce.

— They have got up a "corner" on trade-dollars in San Francisco. That's one way to make round things square.

— Gen. Sherman has just been presented with his grandchild.

— The wits say that, now the Soldene troupe has left town, studies are resumed at Harvard.

— Brockton boasts of having beaten Fitchburg last year in industrial products.

— The new Smith College building at Northampton is to be seventy feet long and seventy feet wide, two stories, of brick, with stone trimmings.

— The full moon has of late been a most welcome change from the long rainy spell through which we were carried with what patience we could.

— Tupper, the English proverbial philosopher, if not poet, is making the tour of the various American cities.

— Ex ex-Premier Gladstone opposes what is called compulsory vaccination.

— The French poet and dramatist, Victor Hugo, is reported to be worth half a million dollars and to be exceedingly stingy also. But he gives pleasant charitable parties to children, and it must be agreed that he has his heart in the right place.

— The very ladies in Paris wear Ulsters. They are a capital thing for everybody, and a bob-tail overcoat of any kind ought not to be a phenomenon.

— In China, defaulters to the public treasury lose their heads as well as their places.

— A fancy geologist gives it as his opinion that toads get into rocks by using toads' tools. Perhaps he is about right.

— A man who was to pay an election wager by taking a ten mile walk and carrying a pig with him, got so unmanageable that the pig will soon be too heavy for him to carry.

— The Empress Eugenie recovered smart damages from a Paris journal that impugned the legitimacy of her son.

— George Washington's library, consisting of about two hundred and fifty volumes, was sold in Philadelphia last week for a trifle under two thousand dollars.

— A lady writer of gossip in Europe says that the Prince Imperial's ears do not stick out as much as they used to.

— Boston has been paying Ole Bull distinguished honors this week.

— The dreadful destruction of human life by the recent cyclone in Bengal, is the subject of astonished comment all over the world.

— Caleb Cushing has returned to his post at Madrid.

— New York has finally purchased the Cesnola art collection.

— Plucky little Mrs. Gaines has again beaten the city of New Orleans in her long standing suit, and this time before the United States Supreme Court.

— The Post Office cost the country last year four millions more than it returned in money.

— Money is still a drug in the market, and business does not seem to call it out very fast.

— The President is reported to have purchased a house in Washington.

— Minister Gladstone's clothes are said to look as if he put them on with a pitchfork. He is a very indifferent costumer.

— The weight of dressed hogs constitutes, about these times, a pretty regular feature in the newspapers.

— The hotels in Florida are all opening wide their doors for the anticipated influx of visitors from the North.

— "The anxieties of precarious royalty" is the name of the disease, not a common one, that carried off the wife of Amadeus, the abdicated king of Spain.

— Tweed is said to be a man of superstitious tendencies.

— There is no prospect of money's going up in price for the rest of the year. Nothing but unforeseen circumstances can now bring it above four to a seven per cent. rate. The simple truth is, there is not business for the money, and the money market cannot be expected very greatly to improve.

Editor's Table.

☞ The oration of Hon. Daniel Needham at the dedication of the new Town House in Ayer, Mass., on the 20th of October last, richly deserved the compliment of permanent preservation in print. It appears in a handsome pamphlet, in which its perusal will impart a pleasure second only to that of listening to the speaker while delivering it. The vital part played by the Town House in the development and maintenance of our system of free government is sketched by the orator with genuine skill and a philosophic insight into the principles and methods which have brought us to the beginning of the second century of our national existence.

☞ *The Spirit of the Times*, of New York, of which E. A. Buck is the accomplished editor, is getting ready to bring out a Christmas number that will be perfectly irresistible, will be sure to overwhelm all attempts at rivalry. It is to consist of forty pages, and to present one hundred illustrations, eighty being portraits of noted actors and actresses of the American, English and French stages. Wilkie Collins will furnish a special story for it; E. L. Blanchard, of Drury Lane Theatre, will write for it a history of pantomime; Rev. Mr. Murray and John W. Forney, Esq., will contribute to it; "Devoted Yachtsman" will furnish something good besides his promised portrait; Ostrom, of Cornell, will tell what he knows about boating; and experts of every department of sport will be fully treated. Portraits of oarsmen, riflemen and pedestrians will adorn the pages of this famous number. The Spirit is a model of a journal in the field it cultivates with such admirable success, and need fear no rival near its throne. From our heart we wish it in advance a Merry Christmas indeed.

One of the Rev. Joseph Cook's finest arguments is thus made in his recent lectures in this city:—"If it was possible for God from the uncomely chrysalis of the butterfly to make a visible resurrection, it was just as possible, and no more unnatural, for Him to make an invisible resurrection out of the body of man." He holds logically that what is outside of matter is not matter, and that the destruction of matter is not necessarily followed by the destruction of what is outside of matter.

☞ The popular auction sales of the Ames Plow Company are going on this week, on Friday, and will be continued on Friday of next week. A careful reading of the list of useful and necessary implements which the Company offer to the agricultural and general public will convince any one [illegible]. From the least to the greatest of articles, from those which are operated by the human hand to those which are moved by horse power, the Company is ready to supply at great bargains, and [illegible] to come forward with their bids. Their immense stock is going off at great bargains, and [illegible] chiefly wants. We call special attention to the Company's advertisement elsewhere.

☞ *The Bishop Soule Liniment* scarcely needs more praise. It receives it freely from all sides for the good work it has done and is doing. One who requires the services of a liniment—and there are few who at some time do not—will be certain to be abundantly supplied by this invaluable and never-failing servant and friend. Sciatica always gives way before it with remarkable promptness. All sorts of sprains, neuralgia, lame back, lameness in the joints, yield to its powers. It is sold by F. W. Ryder & Son, of this city.

☞ *Burt's Dyspepsia Cure* is also an invigorator of the liver, and is recommended very widely for what it can do in cases of dyspepsia, constipation, indigestion, and other liver complaints. A few doses are said to bring the digestive apparatus into such condition again that it can dispose of the food in the natural way, without any particular inconvenience or distress. For sale by the proprietors, F. W. Ryder & Son, of this city.

LOCAL NOTICES.

COUGHS AND COLDS ARE OFTEN OVERLOOKED.—A continuance for any length of time causes irritation of the Lungs or some Chronic Throat Disease. "*Brown's Bronchial Troches*" are an effectual COUGH REMEDY.

FRANK MILLER'S LEATHER PRESERVATIVE and Water Proof Blacking received the highest and only award at the Centennial Exhibition.

WISTAR'S BALSAM OF WILD CHERRY.—The great remedy for consumption. This well-known remedy is offered to the public, sanctioned by the experience of over forty years, and when resorted to in season seldom fails to effect a speedy cure of Coughs, Colds, Croup, Bronchitis, Influenza, Whooping Cough, Hoarseness, Pains or Soreness in the Chest or Side, Bleeding on the Lungs, Liver Complaint, etc. Beware of Counterfeits! Remember that the genuine WISTAR'S BALSAM OF WILD CHERRY has on the outside wrapper the signature of "I. BUTTS," and the printed label of the proprietors, "SETH W. FOWLE & SONS, BOSTON." All others are base imitations. Examine the wrapper carefully before purchasing.

☞ Boys intending to learn the game of "Base Ball" can do so quickly by reading the *Table Game of Base Ball*, a perfect representation of the out-door game.

Invented and sold by the Pope Manufacturing Co., 45 High Street, Boston, Mass. Send for circular. Price, $1.50.

☞ Nervousness, and all complaints of the nervous system, are usually connected with a diseased condition of the blood. Debility is a frequent accompaniment. The first thing to be done is to remove the corruption of the blood. This is accomplished by taking VEGETINE. It is a great cleanser, and at the same time a controlling power over the nervous system.

FRANK MILLER'S HARNESS OIL received the highest and only award at the Centennial Exhibition.

FARMERS' SONS, who wish to know how to [illegible] in the Arkansas Valley, where the crops will pay for the land in a few years, will receive valuable information by addressing W. H. Peabody, N. E. Agent, A. T. & S. F. R. R. Co.

197 Washington Street, Boston.

MARRIAGES.

In this city, Nov. 29, by Rev. R. H. Neale, Frederick M. Morse to Lillie G. Forbush, all of Boston.

In this city, Nov. 30, by Rev. George W. Bosworth, D. D., John F. Bowditch to Sarah A. Childs, both of Braintree.

In this city, Nov. 29, by Rev. Samuel Cook, D. D., Charles J. Bishop, Jr., of Boston, to Mary Lane, daughter of the late Henry Bird.

In East Boston, Dec. 2, by Rev. Warren H. Cudworth, Samuel F. Cook to Miss Hattie B. Pierce, both of Boston.

In Newton, Nov. 30, by Rev. Peter D. Davis, of Hyde Park, Mr. C. Fred Wilson of Charlestown, to Miss [illegible], daughter of Frederick A. Brown.

In Newtonville, Nov. 30, by Rev. J. C. Adams, Joseph H. Ladd to Miss Jennie A. Baker, both of Newtonville.

In Medway, Nov. 30, by Rev. R. K. Harlow, Mr. [illegible] to Miss Catherine F. Feeley, both of Holliston.

In Phillipston, Dec. 2, by Rev. Edwin G. Adams of Templeton, Mr. Frank H. Miner to Miss Ellen White, both of Phillipston.

[illegible]

DEATHS.

In this city, Dec. 4, Elizabeth W., wife of Charles D. Hall.

[illegible]

THE STOCK MARKET.

State Street at 3 P. M., Dec. 6, 1876.

	OFFERED.	ASKED.
American Gold	[illegible]	[illegible]
Boston Land Co.	[illegible]	[illegible]
Boston Water Power Company	[illegible]	[illegible]
Brookline Land Company	[illegible]	[illegible]
Eastern Railroad	[illegible]	[illegible]
Boston, Hartford & Erie R. R.	[illegible]	[illegible]
Boston & Albany Railroad	[illegible]	[illegible]
Boston & Maine Railroad	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cincin., Sandy & Cleveland R. R.	[illegible]	[illegible]
Metropolitan Railroad	[illegible]	[illegible]
Michigan Central Railroad	[illegible]	[illegible]
Old Colony Railroad	[illegible]	[illegible]
Rutland Railroad, preferred	[illegible]	[illegible]
Vermont & Canada Railroad	[illegible]	[illegible]

SPECIAL NOTICES.

☞ There is nothing like leather Shoes with a SILVER TIP for children. They never wear through at the toes.

Also try Wire Quilted Soles. dec6-1t

Domestic Markets.

WHOLESALE PRICES.

BOSTON PRODUCE MARKET

Flour.—Market quite firm, with a fair demand for the various grades of family flour. We quote Superfine at $4 50@4 75 [illegible]

Corn.—Common have been sales of No. 2 mixed [illegible]

Oats.—No. 1 white [illegible]

Shorts.—Market quiet, with sales at $14 00 [illegible]

Butter.—The demand is mainly for fine butter. The lower grades are dull and slow, with little more confidence on medium, although there is a [illegible]

Cheese.—Market firm [illegible]

Eggs.—Market firm [illegible]

Beans.—The market is firm for prime mediums [illegible]

Poultry.—The stock carried over from Thanksgiving has been well received, and prices have [illegible]

Apples and Cranberries.—The market for Apples remains quiet [illegible]

Vegetables.—Potatoes remain firm [illegible]

Hay and Straw.—No change to note in the market. [illegible]

Cotton.—Market steady and firm, with a good inquiry. [illegible]

Sugar.—Raw is dull, and we quote [illegible]

Hops are very dull, but no lower. [illegible]

Tobacco is very quiet, but without any giving way in prices. [illegible]

Teas.—[illegible]

Broom Corn is quoted at 8½c for new choice green. [illegible]

BOSTON PROVISION MARKET.

Pork is quiet, and the demand is confined to small lots. Lard is quiet at quoted rates. There is a good demand for smoked Hams, with a firm market at quoted prices. [illegible]

BUILDING MATERIALS

Are easy, with the demand very limited. [illegible]

BOSTON LUMBER MARKET.

The demand is light, but prices continue steady. [illegible] *Com. Bulletin.*

BOSTON LEATHER MARKET.

The leather market continues very strong. New Yorkers seem to be rather more sanguine of the future than our tanners. [illegible]

Rough Leather is in good demand and with [illegible]

Wax and Kip are held steadily at the advanced quotations. [illegible]

Crop Sole is firm. [illegible]

Hemlock Sole is in good demand and higher. [illegible] *Com. Bulletin.*

BALTIMORE CATTLE MARKET.

Beef Cattle.—Prices for tops were a shade, though scarcely a quarter figure higher than last week, [illegible]

Swine.—There has been a moderate demand for Hogs this week, and [illegible]

Sheep.—Good Sheep continue in steady and fair demand [illegible] *Baltimore Sun.*

Cattle Markets.

BRIGHTON AND WATERTOWN.

For the Week ending Wednesday, Dec. 6.

Amount of Stock at market:—

	Beeves.	Sheep.	Shoats.	Fat Hogs.	Veals
This week	2862	6,804		28,670	
Last week	2564	4,623		28,330	—
One year ago	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	7478	

Prices.

Beef—[illegible] first quality, [illegible]; second quality, [illegible]; third quality, [illegible] [illegible], some of the [illegible]

Working Oxen—[illegible] handy steers, [illegible] [illegible] according to their value for beef.

Cows and Young Calves.—Fair quality, $30 [illegible]

Steers—[illegible] three-year olds, [illegible]

Sheep—[illegible]

Lambs—[illegible]

Fat Hogs—[illegible]

Veal Calves—[illegible]

Hides—[illegible] country lots, [illegible]

Calf Skins—[illegible]

Tallow—[illegible] country lots, [illegible]

Pelts—[illegible]

Cattle and sheep from several States.

	Beeves.	Sheep.		Beeves.	Sheep.
Maine	[illegible]	[illegible]	New York	720	1241
N. Hampshire	[illegible]	[illegible]	R. Island	—	—
Vermont	[illegible]	[illegible]	Western	1959	[illegible]
Massachusetts	[illegible]	[illegible]	Canada	—	2230
Total				2862	6,804

Cattle and Sheep by Railroads.

	Beeves.	Sheep.		Beeves.	Sheep.
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Eastern	—	130
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Fitchburg	[illegible]	[illegible]
Boston & Albany	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	27	—
Total				2862	6,804

Drovers & Dealers of Cattle and Sheep.

[illegible]

Maine.

New Hampshire.

Massachusetts.

New York.

Vermont.

Canada.

Western States.

[illegible]

WATERTOWN MARKET.

[illegible]

WATERTOWN VEAL MARKET.

[illegible]

BRIGHTON MARKET.

[illegible]

SALES OF WESTERN CATTLE.

[illegible]

THE SHEEP TRADE.

[illegible]

STORE CATTLE & WORKING OXEN

We find working oxen abundant, and are sold low to settle up. We noticed very fair yearlings at [illegible] Working oxen are [illegible]

MILCH COWS.

[illegible]

STORE PIGS AND FAT HOGS.

Not any store pigs in market; 113 cars of fat hogs for the week at unchanged prices.

POULTRY

Only a few crates have landed and not required. Prices 10@12c ℔ ℔.

Remarks.—We are inclined to the opinion that there will be from 2000@2500 head of cattle left over until another week. The trade opened and continued slow, did not meet with any degree of life, and all that kept prices where they were last week was the cost of the stock delivered at the yards, it is fortunate for butchers that their requirements were light this week, and we hardly expect an improvement next week.

ALBANY CATTLE MARKET.

Beeves.—The supply consisted mainly of fair to good medium weight native steers, there were no extra or very fine cattle, and only a few common. Of Texas there were only 7 cars and 10 of Colorados. The ruling price for fair to good native was [illegible], and Colorados [illegible], common stock selling down as usual. We note a few sales of some of the best natives to show the ruling of the market, and they corresponded with the business of last week.

Harry S. Rosenthal sold 17 head Illinois steers, at [illegible] ℔, averaging 1,316 lbs; 14 do., rather [illegible], at 5c, averaging 1,315 lbs, and 46 head prime do. at 5c, averaging 1,321 lbs.

[illegible] Eastman sold 16 head Illinois steers, at [illegible] 100 lbs, averaging 1,316 lbs; 16 head do. at 5c, averaging 1,294 lbs; 16 head do. at 5c, averaging 1,222 lbs.

W. H. Monroe sold 14 head Illinois steers, at [illegible] ℔, averaging 1,456 lbs; 16 head do. at [illegible], averaging 1,319 lbs; 20 head do., at $5 55 ℔ 100 lbs, averaging 1,302 lbs; 17 head do. at 5c, averaging 1,311 lbs; 12 head do. at $5 30, averaging 1,292 lbs; 16 head do. at 5½c, averaging 1,286 lbs. New York dealers took about 200 head, but they were of an inferior class of cattle.

Milch Cows.—Farmers are now selling off their surplus stock, and the supply this week was large and consisted mainly of farrow Cows and Springers. The receipts were about 30 head, nearly all of which were disposed of to various parties. Williamsburgh dealers purchased about 120 farrows at $20 00@30 00 each; 20 head were taken to the river towns; 40 head to Long Island, and 20 to New York. About 80 head were taken by the trade here and country buyers at $15 00@30 00 for ordinary to good farrows, and $30 00@60 00 for common to good Springers and Milkers.

Sheep and Lambs.—There was a slight improvement in the demand over last week, New York dealers having taken a few droves, but the business with the East and the local trade exhibited only a slight increase. The market ruled rather stronger, and on the low grades it is quotably higher. We quote as the ruling: Common to fair, [illegible]; fair to good, [illegible], and good to extra, [illegible] ℔ ℔.

The average supply of Lambs is not so good as last week's offerings. We quote as the ruling: Common to fair, [illegible]; fair to good, [illegible], and good to extra, [illegible], one drove having been taken at 6½c ℔ ℔. At the close there were five loads of Sheep and two of Lambs unsold in the pens, with three to arrive.

Hogs.—Supply large and mostly sent forward, being held too high for our dealers. We quote State $5 80@5 90, and Western $5 75@6 12, the latter price for choice and heavy.—*Albany Journal.*

NEW YORK CATTLE MARKET.

Beeves.—Receipts of the week 10,400 head; fat cattle scarce and firm at [illegible]; fair to good at [illegible]; poorer qualities dragged, but all were sold; Chicago-dressed beef selling at [illegible].

Sheep and Lambs.—Receipts of the week 28,700 head; in good demand; sheep at [illegible] for ordinary to good; [illegible] for choice; lambs at [illegible]; yards well cleared.

Hogs.—Receipts 32,300 head; market stronger; [illegible] for city dressed; Buffalo dressed at [illegible].

CHICAGO CATTLE MARKET.

Cattle.—Market dull and nearly nominal; choice Beeves $4 75@5 00; good $4 40@4 65; medium $3 85@4 15, butchers $2 75@3 25; stockers $2 75@3 30; inferior $2 00@2 50.

Hogs.—Market active, firmer and 5@10c higher; light $5 70@5 75; good to choice heavy packing $5 80@5 90; sales chiefly at $5 70@5 80.

Sheep.—Market scarce; inferior to good $2 75@4 75.

CINCINNATI HOG MARKET.

Cincinnati, Dec. 4.—**Live Hogs**—Market active and firm; common light, $5 00@5 40; fair to good light, $5 30@5 75; fair to good packing, $5 55@5 80; choice heavy, $5 85@5 90.

EAST BUFFALO HOG MARKET.

East Buffalo, Dec. 4.—**Live Hogs**—Market moderately active; Yorkers, fair to good corn-fed, $5 50@5 60; best $5 50@5 75; heavy, good to best $5 75@5 90.

QUINCY MARKET, BOSTON.

Retail Prices.

Reported expressly for the Ploughman, for the week ending December 6.

Beef, &c.

Corrected by E. Holden & Son, Nos. 60 and 62.

Sirloin Steak, ℔	[illegible]	[illegible]	Beef Liver	[illegible]	[illegible]
Rump Steak	[illegible]	[illegible]	Beef Tongue	[illegible]	[illegible]
Round Steak	[illegible]	[illegible]	Corned Beef	[illegible]	[illegible]
Rib Roast	[illegible]	[illegible]	Smoked Beef	[illegible]	[illegible]
Chucks, &c.	[illegible]	[illegible]	Beef Tongue, salt	[illegible]	[illegible]
Tripe	[illegible]	[illegible]			

Pork, Lard, &c.

Corrected by Lee Flint & Co., No. 59.

Fresh Pork, ℔	[illegible]	[illegible]	Smoked Should'rs	[illegible]	[illegible]
Clear Salt Strips	[illegible]	[illegible]	Smoked Ribs	[illegible]	[illegible]
Single Ham	[illegible]	[illegible]	Sausages	[illegible]	[illegible]
Corned Shoulders	[illegible]	[illegible]	Pigs' Feet	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bologna	[illegible]	[illegible]	Lard	[illegible]	[illegible]

Veal and Mutton.

Corrected by Hosmer & Son, Nos. 2 & 22.

Veal, leg	[illegible]	[illegible]	Mutton, legs	[illegible]	[illegible]
Veal, shoulder	[illegible]	[illegible]	Mutton, should's	[illegible]	[illegible]
Lamb, ℔ ℔	[illegible]	[illegible]			

Butter, Cheese, &c.

Corrected by C. C. Chamberlin & Co., Nos. 78 & 82.

[illegible]

Poultry, Game, &c.

Corrected by N. Robbins, Nos. 32 & 35.

[illegible]

Fruit and Vegetables.

Corrected by Smith, Avery & Co., Nos. 87 & 89.

[illegible]

Fish, &c.

Corrected by Walker & Rich, Nos. 123 & 127.

[illegible]

Wholesale Prices.

INSIDE QUINCY MARKET.

Beef, &c.

Corrected by E. Holden & Son, Nos. 60 & 62.

[illegible]

Pork, Lard, &c.

Corrected by Lee Flint & Co., No. 59.

[illegible]

Veal and Mutton.

Corrected by Hosmer & Son, Nos. 2 & 22.

[illegible]

Butter, Cheese and Eggs.

Corrected by C. C. Chamberlin & Co., No. 79.

[illegible]

Fruit and Vegetables.

Corrected by Smith, Avery & Maynard, No. 87.

[illegible]

BOSTON HAY MARKET.

RETAIL PRICES.

Country, ton	[illegible]	Straw, bund..... [illegible]
Salt Hay, ton	[illegible]	

BOSTON SEED MARKET.

Corrected by J. Breck & Son, 51 North Market St.

[illegible]

New Advertisements.

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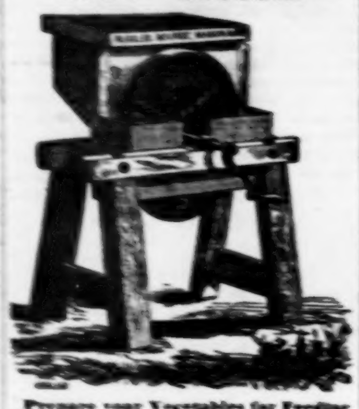
New Advertisements.

ROOT CUTTER.



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Prices Reduced.

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SOLE MAKERS.

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I claim for this breed the following advantages to the farmers of our country, and my claims are more than substantiated by their home record.

- 1st—White color.
- 2d—Well covered with bristles.
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- 4th—Small bone and offal.
- 5th—Easily fattened.
- 6th—Very prolific and large milkers.
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- 8th—Maturing early.
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This breed has been awarded the highest premiums in Lancashire, England, and the stock is a breed crossed with Suffolk Yorkshire, Large White. My hogs have been scantily fed for the purpose of breeding, as no animal can bear forcing if burdened with fat, or highly fed when young. My animals are from three distinct families, and no relation to each other. I have found by experience that animals which are bred in and in for a length of time will render the offspring weak, imperfect, subject to fits, blindness, and defects in constitution, which very much impairs the organs connected with the genital, urinary and milk. Send for full descriptive circular.
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50 Visiting Cards.

WITH your name finely printed, sent for 25 cents. Agents wanted.
GEO. E. SIMMONS,
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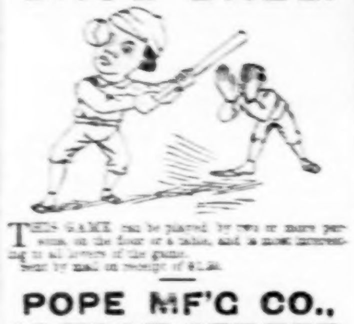
BASE BALL.



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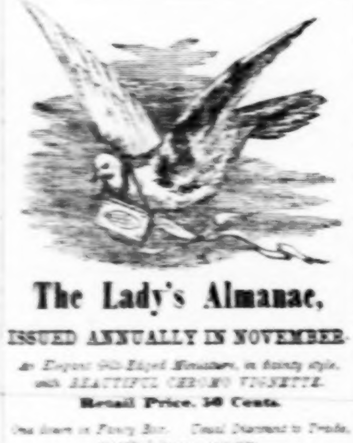

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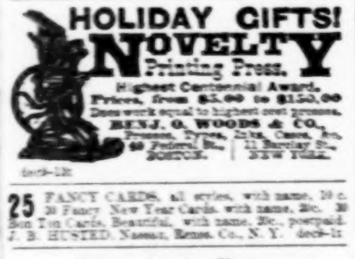

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sep23-tf

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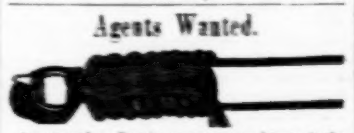

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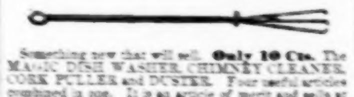

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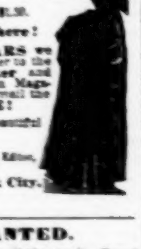

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8th Street, N. Y.

Notice

IS hereby given, that the subscriber has been duly appointed Administrator of the estate of LUCY PRINCE, late of Boston, in the County of Suffolk, deceased, and has taken upon himself that trust by giving bonds, as the law directs. All persons having demands upon the estate of said deceased are required to exhibit the same; and all persons indebted to said estate are called upon to make payment to
HORACE PRINCE, Administrator.
Boston, Nov. 13, 1876.
dec2-3t*

Notice

IS hereby given, that the subscriber has been duly appointed Executor of the will of EZRA TIRRELL, late of Weymouth, in the County of Norfolk, deceased, and has taken upon himself that trust by giving bonds, as the law directs. All persons having demands upon the estate of said deceased are required to exhibit the same; and all persons indebted to said estate are called upon to make payment to
NOAH TIRRELL, Executor.
Nov. 6, 1876.
dec2-3t*

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Middlesex, ss. Probate Court.

To the Heirs-at-Law, next of Kin, and all other Persons interested in the Estate of THOMAS SWEETSER, late of Reading, in said County, deceased,

Greeting:

WHEREAS, a certain instrument purporting to be the last Will and Testament of said deceased, has been presented to said Court, for Probate, by KIRK SWEETSER, who prays that letters testamentary may be issued to him, one of the Executors therein named, the other Executor having declined said trust, and that he may be exempt from giving a surety or sureties on his bond pursuant to said will and statute.

You are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court, to be held at Cambridge, in said County of Middlesex, on the fourth Tuesday of December next, at nine o'clock before noon, to show cause, if any you have, against the same.

And said petitioner is hereby directed to give public notice thereof by publishing this citation once a week, for three successive weeks, in the newspaper called the Massachusetts Ploughman, printed at Boston, the last publication to be two days at least before said Court.

Witness GEORGE M. BROOKS, Esquire, Judge of said Court, this twenty-fifth day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-six.
J. H. TYLER, Register.
dec2-3t

The TOLL-GATE! Prize Picture sent free! An ingenious gem! 50 objects to find! Address, with stamp, E. C. ABBEY, Buffalo, N. Y.
my23-52t

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BOSTON.
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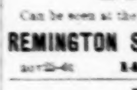

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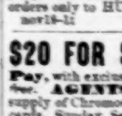

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November and December at

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The Highest Awards were granted our Pianos in the Great Worlds' Fairs of LONDON, 1851, and PARIS, 1867; and at Paris in addition to the First Gold Medal, the CROSS OF THE LEGION OF HONOR was conferred upon these instruments, and was the Highest Award of the Exhibition and was given ONLY to CHICKERING & SONS.

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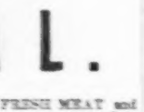

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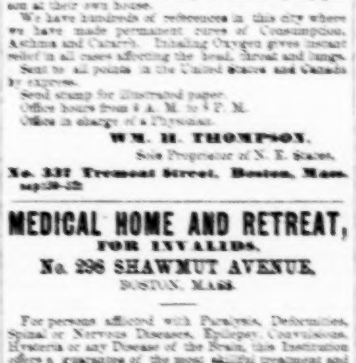

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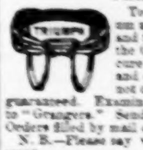

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PUBLISHED BY

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NO CHARGE TO THE BUYER IN ANY CASE.

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Parties enquiring by mail, will please enclose stamp for return postage. When in Boston, come in and look over our descriptions, whether you intend to buy at present or not. All enquiries cheerfully and promptly answered.

No. 7[illegible]—AN EXCELLENT MILK FARM, called the best farm in the town, near one of the best markets in the State, good buildings, milk sold at the door; 1½ miles south of Mendon Village, near school, containing 130 acres with a good wood lot, will cut 100 cords of oak and walnut wood; the balance is well divided, somewhat rough but mowed by machine, cuts 40 tons of hay, keeps 25 cows, yoke of oxen and two horses; 100 thrifty apple trees, producing 300 barrels of good winter apples, also pears, cherries and berries. Excellent House of 7 rooms and L, in good repair; one of the best Barns in this region, 72x40, double boarded, with cupola and vane; fine cellar and yard, built six years ago, and cost over $3,000, newly painted, granary, &c., all in good repair. Very finely located, good neighborhood. Excellent land for grass or vegetables, and its nearness to the flourishing town of Milford makes it very desirable. Price $6,500, $4,000 cash, balance to suit. Apply to GEO. H. CHAPIN, New England Farm Agency, 24 Tremont Row, Boston.

No. 7[illegible]—IN ONE OF THE BEST DAIRY REGIONS OF NEW ENGLAND, a superior farm near Village, together with a milk route paying Two Thousand Dollars a year. Read this carefully. It is better than the description. Within half a mile of West Boylston village, 10 miles from Worcester, containing 150 acres, 30 in rapidly growing wood, the balance is well divided; 40 acres are in intervale, with not a stone on it, cuts 50 tons of No. 1 English hay, besides the meadow; 75 apple trees, other fruit in variety; keeps 25 cows, a pair of horses, and will keep sheep; a trout-brook flows through the farm, 1 story House with hip roof, 12 rooms and L, painted and blinded, old fashioned but in good repair; slated roof Barn 72 [illegible], another Barn [illegible], with cellar, ice house, etc., a valuable milk route goes with the farm. The farm is growing in value each year and is a bargain at the price—$[illegible], $3,000 cash. Apply to GEO. H. CHAPIN, 24 Tremont Row, Boston.

No. 8[illegible]—"BIRTHPLACE OF HON. DANIEL WEBSTER." The old Webster farm at Franklin, N. H., containing 150 acres, 2 miles from the village, ¼ of this farm is in pine and hard wood, will cut 800 cords and some timber, cuts 30 tons of hay, keeps 30 head of stock through the year; 200 apple and pear trees; also, currants, cherries and plums, a good quantity of other varieties of fruit. The land is rolling and free from stones, of good, deep loam. A fine brook flows through the farm, and is abundantly supplied with trout. There is no doubt but this brook was the place where the youthful Daniel caught his first fish. It is well known that on this place he complained that his scythe "did not hang right," and he was told to hang it to suit himself, whereupon he hung it upon a limb of an apple tree. The House is in fair repair, the Barn is poor and needs much repairing; 2 story House with L, 10 rooms, painted; wood shed in the L; ample closets; good cellar; Barn 75x36. The buildings are shaded by the largest Elm in New England, shades 100 feet, is 22 feet in circumference. A good location for summer boarders. Price, $3,500, $2,000 cash, balance on easy terms. Apply at New England Farm Agency, 24 Tremont Row, Boston, GEO. H. CHAPIN.

No. 7[illegible]—AT HAMILTON, AN OLD ESTATE OF 200 ACRES, under good cultivation, located one mile from the Ipswich depot, on the Eastern Railroad, near the Appleton Estate, 1 mile from the village, 2 miles from Wenham depot, 20 miles from Boston, containing upwards of 200 acres, 75 of which is in rapidly growing hard wood. The balance is well divided, free from stones. The mowing and tillage level, a dark loam with clay subsoil, under good cultivation. Cuts 50 to 60 tons of English hay, by machine. Keeps 25 head of cattle through the year, and that number is now on the farm. The milk is all sold at the door. The orchard contains 100 fruit trees, thrifty and in good condition. Grapes and berries in variety. Good, large 2 story House of 10 rooms, with stoop in front, painted and 4 light glass, in good condition. Barn 75x38, sheep barn 25x18, carriage house 25x12, piggery 30x20, store barn 30x20, tool house 20x12. Very pleasantly located on high land, commanding a delightful view of the surrounding country. The county road runs directly through the farm for 1 mile. The well known Appleton and Frances Dane estates are quite near. A valuable property worthy of examination. For price and terms of payment, apply to GEO. H. CHAPIN, 24 Tremont Row, Boston.

No. 8[illegible]—ONE OF THE MOST PRODUCTIVE FARMS IN VERMONT—producing in one season one hundred tons of hay (from 80 acres) and 2500 bushels of grain. Good buildings, and all in good condition; also connected therewith (or will be sold separately) a profitable Hotel, long established, and doing a good business, pleasantly located within 50 rods of depot, on the Central Vermont Railroad; a House of 30 rooms, besides billiard room, barber's shop, Masonic hall and ante-rooms, assembly-hall, 75x40, &c. The house has a fine reputation and is doing an excellent business, it being an old established stand. The farm adjoining, contains 280 acres, free from stones and stumps, under high cultivation. In 1872 one hundred tons of hay were cut from 80 acres by machine; have raised 2,500 bushels of grain a season; one year 750 bushels of winter wheat was raised; 1,200 bushels of corn are raised in a season. For fifteen years the proprietor did not buy a barrel of flour, having raised all his wheat. The fruit is of choice varieties, comprising 420 engrafted apple trees. The buildings on the farm consist of 4 barns, besides the livery stable, 80x32, containing 30 horse stalls and doing a good business, cellar under each barn; 2½ story store-house; ice-house of 30 tons capacity; wood-house holding 75 cords; piggery 30x20; slaughter-house 30x18, doing a business of $5,000 a year. The buildings are all in good repair, and are alone worth $20,000. The buildings are all supplied with water from an aqueduct belonging to the estate, which supplies water to 22 other places in the village, and pays the interest on $2,000. Good judges say this is the best producing farm in the county. The location is just charming, amid the most romantic scenery in New England; five miles from Dartmouth College; near church, school, &c. A great bargain is offered. The owner has amassed a fortune here, and advancing years induces him to sell. He will sell the hotel without the farm, if required, but the two should go together. Price for the whole property, $13,000, on very easy terms, as the money is not needed. See fifteen views of the estate and a full description, at the office of GEO. H. CHAPIN, 24 Tremont Row, Boston.

No. 8[illegible]—A SUBSTANTIAL OLD HOMESTEAD, on which a large amount of money has been expended, located at Topsfield, containing 142 acres, 1½ miles from village, depot and churches, well fenced with stone wall, fine oak and walnut growth, wood enough for house use; cuts 25 tons or more of hay; keeps 11 cows, pair of oxen and 3 horses; 200 apple and a few pear trees, also currants, a fine strawberry bed; some seasons sell $400 worth of fruit. Land rolling, some parts rocky, rich loam, clay subsoil, borders on the Ipswich river. The buildings are good and consist of an old fashioned 2 story House of 11 large sized rooms, just remodelled and renovated throughout, newly shingled and clapboarded, painted, papered and blinded, 4 light glass in windows; also farmhouse, 7 rooms, newly fitted up. Barn 50x40, clapboarded and painted; horse barn 50x36, cellars under part of both; ice house, hennery, &c. This is an excellent farm, some of the best soil in town, pleasantly located, commanding a fine view of the village and the surrounding country. The buildings have substantial oak frames, and are in complete repair. Price $10,500, $4,500 cash, balance to suit at 6 per cent. Apply at New England Farm Agency, 24 Tremont Row, GEO. H. CHAPIN.

No. 7[illegible]—A STOCK FARM AND COUNTRY SEAT AT PRINCETON—One of the most profitable farms in that region, cuts eighty tons of hay, will be shown free of expense by S. C. Young, who will always be found at our Hubbardston office, to show farms in his neighborhood, and always without charge, whether a sale is effected or not. A short distance from the Wachusett Mountain, within 1½ miles of depot, and only half a mile from the village, churches, high school, &c., containing 175 acres, well divided, level and free from stones; cuts 80 tons of hay by machine; keeps 40 head of cattle through the year; the milk sold at the door; the orchard comprises 300 apple trees, also cherries, grapes, and berries in variety; water is supplied to the various buildings by aqueduct and wells; excellent 2 story House with L and piazzas, 15 rooms, high studded, painted and blinded; fine cemented cellar; fine Barn 60x40, with cellar, horse stable 50x40, carriage house, piggery, granary, ice house, sheds, superior hennery, &c., all in fine repair, beautifully located; shade trees in front; one of the best stock farms in Worcester county. Price $12,500, on easy terms. Apply to S. C. YOUNG, Hubbardston depot, or to GEO. H. CHAPIN, 24 Tremont Row, Boston.

No. 7[illegible]—PREMIUM FRUIT FARM AT CONCORD, only sixteen miles from Boston; the fruit crop worth $4,000. Price reduced Twenty-Three Hundred Dollars. A farm worth having. The wood will sell for Seven Thousand dollars. At Concord (near the Lincoln line), 1½ miles from depot, containing 160 acres, 20 in wood of good growth, will cut 1,000 cords, worth $7 per cord at the village. The balance is free from stones and under high cultivation. Cuts 80 tons of hay by machine, the hay was worth $1,800 last season. The fruit is of the choicest varieties, comprising: 800 apple trees produced last year 1,000 barrels apples; 200 pear trees produced last year 80 bushels pears; 300 peach trees produced last year 30 bushels peaches; 4 acres strawberries; 1 acre raspberries; 1 acre grapes; 10 bushels quinces; 15 bushels cherries; 2 tons grape. Three-fourth acre asparagus, besides plums, cherries, quinces, blackberries, and currants. $900 worth of raspberries, besides quantities of blackberries, currants, and large receipts from the asparagus. Many of the pears bring $6 per bushel, the peaches $7. The fruit crop must bring $4,000 the coming season, at a low estimate. Good water is supplied by five wells. The buildings are all in good repair, comprising a 2 story House of 13 rooms, with L and piazza, painted and blinded; fine cellar with brick floor. Excellent Barn, 80x40, with cellar, cupola and lightning rods, clapboarded and painted. The barn is connected with the house by a long shed containing carriage and wood-rooms, also stock barn, ice house with dairy house attached. The buildings are pleasantly located on high land, shaded by noble elm, ash and Linden trees. The neighborhood is very superior. The town is one of the best in the State; the new library building, recently completed, cost $75,000. The educational and religious advantages are unsurpassed, the railroad connection with Boston good, and altogether this farm presents every advantage to a gentleman desiring a profitable farm and within easy access to the city. Price $13,500, on easy terms of payment. Apply to GEO. H. CHAPIN, 24 Tremont Row, Boston.

No. 7[illegible]—WE HAVE CAREFULLY EXAMINED this place and find it worthy of special attention. Located within half a mile of Wrentham Centre, twenty-five miles from Boston, one of the most pleasant villages in the State. Convenient to various churches, superior schools, and extensive straw manufactories; containing 65 acres, 20 in wood, enough for the use of the place. Most of the balance is level and free from stones. Cuts 20 tons of hay. Keeps 8 cows and a pair of horses. Choice fruit in variety in bearing. Two story House of 11 rooms with L, blinded; needs outside painting, otherwise in good repair. Fine Barn, 50x40, with cellar, cupola and vane; shed, carriage house and piggery, all in good repair. Very pleasantly located on high land, within half a mile of the celebrated "George's Park." This estate is every way desirable, and is a decided bargain at $3,200. On easy terms. Apply to GEO. H. CHAPIN, 24 Tremont Row, Boston.

Full particulars obtained of

GEO. H. CHAPIN,

NEW ENGLAND FARM AGENCY,

24 TREMONT ROW, BOSTON,
oct14
(Up one flight.)

FARMS FOR SALE,

AT THE

NEW ENGLAND FARM AGENCY.

No. 8[illegible]—BEAUTIFUL ESTATE AT LANCASTER, containing forty acres. One of the best pieces of property in the town. The House sets back from the street, with a fine lawn in front approached by a carriage drive, lined by ornamental and shade trees. The land is valuable for building purposes, as it is the only desirable lot of land in the village that can be had at the present time, is near depot, churches and schools. The estate is well fenced with stone and wood, with an iron fence in front of the House. There is a fine oak grove of about one acre. The farm cuts 20 tons of hay, and will keep 12 head of stock; fruit enough for home use; land level and free from stones, a good rich black loam; pump in the House, hard and soft water. The buildings are in good repair, and consist of a large 2 story mansion House with L, 14 rooms, ample closets, etc., painted and blinded, inside shutters, good cellar, heated by furnace, large milk room, granite underpinning, steps and walk. Also, on the estate are 2 small tenement houses in good repair. Excellent Barn 75x40, 20 feet posts, clapboarded and painted, with slate roof; a wagon house connects the House with the Barn. Lancaster is justly proud of its churches and schools, and its low taxes. It has the finest roads and bridges that are to be found in the State, several of Boston's merchant princes have residences in this town. Full particulars obtained at the New England Farm Agency, GEO. H. CHAPIN, 24 Tremont Row, (up one flight,) Boston.

No. 8[illegible]—RARE OPPORTUNITY OF SECURING A VERY PROFITABLE CRANBERRY FARM, together with valuable deposit of Infusoria, which has been changed by a patent process into Tripoli, and has proved a success for the use of manufacturers of articles of silver and gold. Mr. Sibley of Waltham, has put a space down, and is better than the choicest of imported emery. Eighty acres of choice peat land, the owner has a patent machine for separating the peat from the roots, and pulverizing it ready for moulding; there is also a patent machine for manufacturing peat, which is calculated will make and dry for use in 24 hours, 50 tons, by burning 4 tons of peat and costing only 60 cts per ton, and will pay well. This machine is now in successful operation. The cranberry land now yields 200 barrels per year and can be largely increased. The land can be flowed or drained at pleasure, a new drainer to the peat deposit. 75 acres in woods, maple and hemlock wood. Samples of clay, very choice, have been found here. 200 rods of dykes are now made and ready to set with raspberries and blackberries. The deposit of Infusoria is a bottom in itself. Dr. Hayes has analyzed it, it is said to be equal to the imported article, has been used in its natural state for making Ransom's Patent Building Stone now manufactured in Chicago, have sent it by the ton to get it used. A large amount has been sold here, has also been used to make soaps and scouring brick. To any party who has money and energy here is a rare chance not often met with. These acres are 3¼ miles from Fall River, 4 miles from Westport Factory Village, water communication within 1½ miles. The Fall River Railroad extends the whole length of the estate, the cars stopping near the buildings. On the premises there is a small House 16x24, finished, also, Barn 20x30, with a warm cellar. Full particulars of GEO. H. CHAPIN, 24 Tremont Row, Boston.

No. 7[illegible]—ELEGANT RESIDENCE IN THE TOWN OF FRANKLIN, near the celebrated "Dean Academy," Ray Brothers' elegant estate. A large and convenient House with cupola, containing twelve rooms, extensive closets, rooms large and high studded, hung with the richest paper, marble mantels, china closet, back room and conservatory; hot and cold water throughout; white marble mantels and wash bowls, soapstone tubs and sinks, set kettle, force pumps, Walker's range, fine cellar, cemented floor. The grounds comprise 46,000 feet of land, beautifully laid out with a fine collection of pear, peach and plum trees, 35 grape vines, large quantities of raspberries and strawberries. $3000 or more have been expended on the grounds. The conservatory is full of rare plants and flowers. The grounds are nicely graded, concrete walks and drives, located in one of the most pleasant villages in the southern part of Massachusetts, embracing all the social, religious and educational advantages, only 4 minutes walk from depot. Four photographic views on exhibition at this office at our office. Send for price and terms, which are made low to effect an immediate sale. The house cost upwards of $14,000 to build. Full particulars promptly sent to any address by GEO. H. CHAPIN, New England Farm Agency, 24 Tremont Row, (up one flight) Boston.

No. 8[illegible]—HIGHLY PRODUCTIVE FARM IN THE SEASHORE TOWN OF MARSHFIELD, worthy of careful attention, containing 200 acres at North Marshfield, 120 acres in oak and pine wood, will cut 40 tons of hay, keeps 20 head of stock, 300 apple trees, 100 pear trees, 75 peach trees, 100 grape vines, currants, etc. The land is sloping gently to the south and very free from stones, within 20 rods of the river, good boating and fishing; 3 wells of excellent water; pump in the house; good buildings consisting of a 2 story House of 10 rooms, plenty of closets, good cellar, wood house, Barn 36x50, four clapboarded, and painted, 1 horse stalls, 20 cow stalls, Barn will hold 100 tons of hay, good cellar, opening to the south. Also, an old Barn 30x30; a good farm, and in every respect a desirable homestead. There is a river half a mile from this place, affording good boating and fishing. Particulars at the New England Farm Agency, 24 Tremont Row, Boston (up one flight), GEO. H. CHAPIN, or apply to HENRY G. FORD, at Marshfield Centre depot, who will show this estate to all applicants free of expense, and will be happy to answer any enquiries by mail. The cars leave Boston for Marshfield at 3.45, giving applicants ample time to examine the property and return to Boston the same day.

No. 8[illegible]—AN ESTATE ON "GRAND VIEW MOUNTAIN," AT ADDISON, VT., which is 1100 feet above the water of Lake Champlain, containing between five and six hundred acres, mostly covered with wood and timber in great variety; saw mill containing a steam engine of 25 horse power, circular saw, bolting saw, shingle machine, slitting saw and a planer, all first class and in good order; 1½ story house at the mill, containing 11 rooms, all finished; fine cellar, stable and shed with accommodations for 20 horses; well and cistern water; on top of the Mountain about ¼ of a mile from the mill is a 2 story House 40x28, not entirely finished, designed for a kitchen and dining room for a larger house, near the House stands an observatory, 60 feet in height, substantially built, commanding a view of Lake Champlain and the valley between the Green Mountains and the Adirondacks, and from South Bay, Whitehall and Lake George to Cumberland Head north of Plattsburgh, N. Y., and pronounced by travellers to be one of the richest views in North America. The great importance of this property lies in the fact that it is a desirable sight for a hotel. The visitors to the mountain increase from year to year, and more wish to stop than can be accommodated. There is a Blacksmith's shop and tools. Also, a large quantity of sawed lumber all seasoned and ready for building purposes. Timber in abundance and machinery on the mountain to put the timber in shape for building. For price and terms, apply to GEO. H. CHAPIN, 24 Tremont Row, Boston.

No. 8[illegible]—IN THE CITY OF NEWTON, the model city of New England, with its many advantages and unsurpassed railroad facilities, a valuable estate of twenty-three acres, on a broad street, lighted with gas, and water pipes soon to be laid; smooth and level land, free from rocks, and under very high cultivation, every acre can be mowed, and will cut 20 tons of the best quality of English hay. The fruit is of choice varieties and comprises over one hundred pear, apple, peach and cherry trees, producing large crops. The buildings are commodious and attractive, comprising a modern 2 story House with L and piazzas, slated roof, 14 high studded rooms, hard and soft water, excellent Barn 60x40, with cellar; carriage house and painted, with cupola and vane; other outbuildings, all in perfect repair, insured for $12,000, very pleasantly located and very desirable. We would here say that we probably have the finest and largest list of property for sale in Newton and vicinity, that was ever before offered for sale, and many of the estates are great bargains. We invite special attention to this list. The land lies well for subdivision, and a great amount of money could be made by cutting this into house lots, as it is so highly located, being ten minutes walk from one depot and five minutes walk from another, with churches and schools within a short walk. Altogether this property presents great attractions to the capitalist as an investment, to the practical farmer as a vegetable farm, or to the merchant doing business in the city as a homestead; being located within seven miles of State street, over one of the best driving roads in the country. For price and photograph of the buildings, apply to GEO. H. CHAPIN, 24 Tremont Row, Boston.

No. 8[illegible] and H—A SPLENDID ESTATE, NINE MILES FROM BOSTON, upon which a fortune has been expended, and now offered for sale at an immense sacrifice. Worthy of the attention of capitalists, or of anybody desiring a substantial homestead, only five minutes walk from depot, ½ mile from the thriving village of Stoneham, with its various churches and ample schools. The well known John Hill farm, containing 20 acres of highly improved and productive land, 5 acres in oak and pine wood, cuts 25 tons of hay, keeps 8 cows and 3 horses; 30 apple and 100 pear trees, also grapes, strawberries, thimbleberries, &c. Elegant 2 story House, slated roof, 2 bay windows, piazza, 18 rooms finished in hard wood, ample closets, one finished in cedar, bathroom, hot and cold water, furnace, &c., everything new and in complete and perfect order; ice house, wood house, wood cook room, boarded and painted to match the house. Also, 1½ story House, 7 rooms, in good repair for farm help. Also, Barn 80x45, none better in Middlesex County, cost $6,000 to build, clapboarded and painted, cupola and vane. Thorough, convenient and ample in all its parts, hay loft, granary, carriage room, harness room, tool room, stable room for cattle, and stalls for horses, sub basement for manure, root cellar, piggery, hennery, &c., granite side wall; in short, no expense has been spared in or about the buildings, or upon the land to make it the most desirable and productive farm in the vicinity of Boston. Apply at New England Farm Agency, GEO. H. CHAPIN, 24 Tremont Row.

No. 7[illegible]—SUPERIOR FARM AT BOXBORO', with excellent buildings. An attractive homelike place near the village. Within ¼ mile of churches, near school, containing 100 acres, 20 of which is in wood, the balance is well divided, sloping, the mowing and tillage free from stones; cuts about 30 tons of hay, and good fodder, by machine. The milk can be sold at the door, or at West Acton depot, 2 miles distant, for 3½ cents per can, from April to October, and 3½ cents from October to April. Fine orchard of 300 trees, in bearing, and an old orchard of 75 trees, good only for cider. Small fruit in variety. Large 2 story House of 15 rooms, with two L's. Fine Barn, 72x40, which cost $2,500 in 1869; split granite cellar walls; water in the cellar; tie-up for 18 cows, clapboarded and battened; well painted; with cupola, so arranged that the cattle go to the cellar without going out doors. Granary, tool-house, etc., all in good repair, except one building needs shingling. This is said to be one of the best dairy-farms in the town. Good neighbors, excellent roads, low taxes. The whole town debt is only $2,500. Water can be carried all over the House if desired, and there are many other good things that we could tell you about this farm, but we have already taken up too much space. Just come to our office and we will accompany you to the farm. Price, $6,000, about half cash required. Apply to GEO. H. CHAPIN, 24 Tremont Row.

No. 7[illegible]—A HIGHLY IMPROVED STOCK FARM AT BOYLSTON, containing 225 acres with sixteen hundred cords of wood, more than enough when marketed to pay for the whole estate. Within 1½ miles from the village, containing 225 acres, 80 of which is in wood, will cut 1,600 cords, worth at least $10,000 when marketed. The balance is well divided; good early loam with clay subsoil. Cuts 50 to 60 tons of English hay by machine; winters 30 cows, pasture for 30 head; milk all sold at the door. Fine orchard of 250 engrafted apple trees, also pears, peaches, cherries, grapes and berries, producing a good quality of fruit; a brook flows through the pasture; water is supplied to the various buildings by aqueduct; 2 story House of 12 rooms with L, piazza, painted and blinded; Barn 80x36, with cellar. Horse stable 40x30, both with matched boards, and supplied with lightning conductors; sheds, piggery 40x28; with set kettle cider mill 40x28; farm-house for the help, containing 8 rooms. The buildings are pleasantly located on high land, commanding a delightful view; a row of beautiful maples line the street. Altogether this property is desirable, and is offered at a great bargain. Price $10,500, $5,000 cash, balance $1,000 a year at 6 per cent. Apply to

GEO. H. CHAPIN,

NEW ENGLAND FARM AGENCY,

20 Tremont Row,

(Up one Flight.)
BOSTON

Cattle Markets.

BRIGHTON AND WATERTOWN.

For the Week ending Wednesday, Dec. 6.

Amount of Stock at market:—

	Beeves.	Sheep.	Shoats.	Fat Hogs.	Veals
This week	2862	9,654		10,570	
Last week	2244	4,629		10,335	..
One yr ago	3673	8,735	50	7979	

Prices.

Beef—per 100 lbs. on total weight of hide, tallow and meat—extra, $7 00@7 50; first quality, $6 25@6 75; second quality, $5 00@6 00; third quality, $4 50@4 75; a few choice single pairs, 7 75@8 ; some of the poorest, bulls, &c., $4 25.

Working Oxen.—$125@175; handy steers, $87@130, or much according to their value for beef.

Cows and Young Calves.—Fair quality, $30@50; extra, $55@85; farrow and dry, $20@30.

Stores.—Thin young cattle for farmers—yearlings $10@20; two-year olds, $16@30; three-year olds, $25@40.

Sheep.—Per lb, live weight, 3@5 cts; extra, 6@6½. Sheep and Lambs ⅌ head, in lots, $1 75@4 50.— Lambs, @c ⅌ lb.

Fat Hogs.—Per lb, 6½@7 cts, live weight; Shotes wholesale, @ c; retail, @ c.

Veal Calves.—$0 00@0 00.

Hides—Brighton, 7½c ⅌ lb; country lots, @7c.

Calf Skins.—10@11c.

Tallow.—Brighton, 7@ c⅌lb; country lots, @6½c

Pelts—1 00 cts. each. Country lots, $1.

CATTLE AND SHEEP FROM SEVERAL STATES.

	Beeves.	Sheep.		Beeves.	Sheep.
Maine		1260	New York	138	1535
N. Hampshire	301	1130	R. Island	—	—
Vermont	370	4039	Western	2026	540
Massachusetts	27		Canada	—	1150
Total				2862	9,654

CATTLE AND SHEEP BY RAILROAD.

	Beeves.	Sheep.		Beeves.	Sheep.
Fitchburg	1145	4294	Eastern	..	1260
Lowell	475	3560	On foot and boats	27	—
Boston & Alb.	1215	540			
Total				2862	9,654

Drovers & Droves of Cattle and Sheep.

	Cattle.	Sheep.
Maine.		
G. W. Hollis		1260
New Hampshire.		
Sturtevant Bros.	21	70
J. M. Flanders	14	
J. R. Dearborn	57	
Dow-Moulton	50	300
L. Sanborn	7	61
Pike & Hubbard	26	25
S. F. Rossiter	17	
Aldrich-Johnson	11	
B. K. Ward	15	
J. S. Nutter	6	400
W. W. Austin	11	74
I. B. Sargent	26	230
M. C. Marshall	22	
F. Fairbanks	18	
Vermont.		
Ricker & Co	7	280
J. M. Seaver	11	200
L. T. Mallory	8	400
Kidder-Robinson	4	107
L. M. Tinker	10	60
S. F. Kimball	7	53
L. Hastings	8	74
O. W. Bickford	10	50
J. Tower	3	95
O. Kimball	23	200
Stocker & Son		235
R. E. French	10	94
H. Adams	32	
A. Fowler	6	
H. S. Britten	10	38
H. N. Jenne	2	76
Spring & Fisher		270
S. W. Gregory		250
F. McCullough		50
D. E. Gay	2	35

	Cattle.	Sheep.
J. Taber		106
Hastings-Gilbert	24	140
E. Wilcox	42	100
M. T. Shackett	64	505
L. D. Freeman	7	
J. W. Armstrong	8	60
G. W. Brownell		94
A. Williamson	8	42
L. Hart		95
J. Ingerson	4	100
Hastings-Campbell	40	200
E. Wheeler	20	
Massachusetts.		
J. Rice	27	
New York.		
H. Bush		100
C. A. Burdick	10	73
B. Hurlbert	25	164
W. Dempsey	34	229
S. S. Rodgers		100
L. A. Fowler	38	
H. C. Clark	2	98
J. H. Sanford		662
Flack & Son	4	110
S. Tracy	25	
Canada.		
J. Latham		95
N. G. Batchelder		1056
Western States.		
G. W. Hollis		540
A. N. Monroe	1169	
J. Stetson	46	
C. Leavitt & Son	129	
J. W. Wales	61	
Hathaway-Swift	592	
M. Joyce	19	

WATERTOWN MARKET.

Union Market, Tuesday, Dec. 5th, 1876.

It generally requires the week after Thanksgiving to settle the market to its usual tone when poultry predominates, but we have serious doubts about the matter this week, which opened with 200 tons of poultry on the market, left over from last week, which is exposed for sale at 12½@16½c ⅌ lb at retail. What wonder is it, that as cattle could not be afforded at less prices than last week, there should be a depressed feeling, and a sort of stagnation to the trade. Butchers were as little inclined to purchase as ever noticed, but as long as they were at market, which has become a habit, did buy a few to patch out with. Small, slim country cattle, of which the market was generously supplied, had to be sold at a grain easier rates, while good cattle at about the old rates. W. W. Austin had with his other stock, a pair of 6 year old oxen, that, as the saying is, "took the spots out of all of them," especially nice and rich, fed by L. Titcomb of Webster, N. H., weighed at home 3,415 lbs, not the heaviest but made just right, were sold to Mr. Allerson at 7¾c D W.

HOW CATTLE WERE SOLD AT UNION MARKET.

M. Joyce sold 1 heifer at 5½c live weight; 6 3-year old steers at 5c, and 11 steers at $485 the bunch, would average 1300 lbs.

M. T. Shackett sold 42 steers to Sampson & Hollis to dress 800 lbs at 7c D W; 10 steers to C. P. Wentworth, to dress 700 lbs at 6¾c D W; 8 steers to M. C. Felch, to dress 650 lbs at 6½c; 10 heifers and cows to dress from 450 to 700 lbs at 6c, D W; 4 oxen to S. F. Woodbridge to dress 1200 lbs at 7½c, little cattle, from 4 to 5½c.

C. H. Bardick sold some yearlings at $13 a head; 1 fat cow, dress 550 lbs, at $32; 2 cows at $42,50 each, dress 350 lbs.

E. Wheeler sold 2 and 3 year old steers at 3½c live, average 1000 lbs.

W. W. Austin sold 2 year old's at $19 each, weigh 600 lbs; 3 year olds at $36, average 1000 lbs.

J. Ingerson sold 2 oxen at 7¼@7½c, D W, dress 1125 lbs; 1 fat cow at $36.

H. C. Clark sold 2 2-year olds at $30 each.

L. M. Tinker sold 4 stags to dress 1100 lbs, at 5c D W.

J. R. Dearborn sold 3 yearling heifers at $18, some at $12.

BRIGHTON MARKET.

WESTERN CATTLE.

PRICES ⅌ lb ON THE LIVE WEIGHT.

Extra	5½@5¾	Light to fair	4½@4¾
Good to prime	5 @5½		

A few lots of premium steers cost.....5¾@5¾

Brighton Market, Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 5 and 6, 1876.—Eighty-one car-loads of Western cattle over the Boston & Albany R. R., which would figure rather more than 1200 head, with the exception of three loads by J. Stetson. The above were handled by A. N. Monroe, who is occupying the new yards, ready to sell one, forty, or a hundred cattle to suit the customer; one man's money as good as another's. The trade at these yards was slow, as well as at the old yards; last week's prices were generally maintained, 5½c live weight as high as any butcher wanted to pay; 5¾c the highest rate noticed by A. N. Monroe, very little vim to the trade.

SALES OF WESTERN CATTLE.

A. N. Monroe sold 10 steers, averaging 1225 lbs, at $4.50, live; 33 steers, averaging 1235 lbs, at 4½c; 23 steers averaging 1325 lbs, at 5¼c; 33 steers, averaging 1280 lbs, at 5½c; 30 steers, averaging 1275 lbs, at 5½c; 3 steers, averaging 1350 lbs, at 5½c and more 5¾c.

Hathaway & Swift sold 7 steers, 9970 lbs, at 5½c; 4 steers, averaging 1200 lbs, at 5c.

J. W. Wales sold 8 steers, averaging 1500 lbs, at 5¾c; 7 steers, averaging 1350 lbs, at 5¼c; 30 steers, averaging 1560 lbs, at $5.50.

J. Stetson sold 10 steers, averaging 1217 lbs, at 5c; 4 steers, averaging 1230 lbs, at $5.20; 2 steers, averaging 1240 lbs, at $4.90.

C. Leavitt & Son sold 3 steers, averaging 1233 lbs, at 5¼c; 8 steers to Mr. Thomas, averaging 1375 lbs, at 5¼c; 5 steers, averaging 1195 lbs, at $5.20.

THE SHEEP TRADE.

Sheep have arrived freely since last market day, with many fine flocks, well fatted. A good bunch of a thousand head, handled by N. C. Batchelder, were received from Canada. Next week Lambert Hastings will forward a flock of his own feeding, and if they compare well with what he has formerly fatted, must be choice.

Prices this week range from 3@6c ⅌ lb, or unchanged. The trade we thought a little easier.

F. McCallough sold 50 sheep, average 70 lbs, at 3c ⅌ lb.

D. E. Gay sold 35 sheep, average 65 lbs, at 3½c ⅌ lb. W. W. Austin sold 74 sheep, average 63 lbs, at 4½c ⅌ lb. I. Ingerson sold 100 sheep, average 60 lbs, at 5c ⅌ lb.

M. T. Shackett sold 162 sheep, average 85 lbs, at 5½c ⅌ lb; 190 sheep, average 68 lbs, at 3¾c ⅌ lb; 100 sheep, average 71 lbs, at 3½c ⅌ lb.

H. Bush sold 100 sheep, average 86 lbs, at 6c ⅌ lb. C. H. Bardick sold 73 sheep, average 97 lbs, at 5½c ⅌ lb.

L. M. Tinker sold 60 sheep, average 70 lbs, at 6c. H. C. Clark sold 98 sheep, average 82½ lbs, at 5½c ⅌ lb.

STORE CATTLE & WORKING OXEN

We find yearlings and bulls abundant, and are sold low to secure sale. We noticed very fair yearlings sell at $12 ⅌ head. Working oxen are not called for to any extent, a few pairs only required to meet the demand.

MILCH COWS.

I. Rice bought in 27 head, and bought at Union Market about 100 head to sell again at Brighton; 4 farrow cows at $22 each; 3 springers, 2 at $35, 1 at $40, one cow and calf at $35, one cow and calf at $50.

J. R. Dearborn sold one 2 year old springer at $28. I. Ingerson sold 1 cow and calf at $55.

STORE PIGS AND FAT HOGS.

Not any store pigs in market; 113 cars of fat hogs for the week at unchanged prices.

POULTRY.

Only a few crates have landed and not required. Prices 10@12c ⅌ lb.

REMARKS.—We are inclined to the opinion that there will be from 200@300 head of cattle left over until another week. The trade opened and continued slim, didn't close with any degree of life, and all that kept prices where they were last week was the cost of the stock delivered at the yards, it is fortunate for butchers that there requirements were light this week, and we hardly expect an improvement next week.

ALBANY CATTLE MARKET.

Beeves.—The supply consisted mainly of fair to good medium weight native steers, there were no extra or very fine cattle, and only a few common. Of Texas there were only 7 cars and 10 of Coloradoes. The ruling price for fair to good native was 5@5¼c, and Coloradoes 4@4½c, common stock selling down as usual. We note a few sales of some of the best natives to show the ruling of the market, and they correspond with the business of last week.

Harry S. Rosenthal sold 17 head Illinois steers, at 5c ⅌ lb, averaging 1,216 lbs; 14 do., rather oxey, at 5c, averaging 1,515 lbs, and 48 head prime do., at 5c, averaging 1,231 lbs.

P. L. Eastman sold 18 head Illinois steers, at $5 10 ⅌ 100 lbs, averaging 1,195 lbs; 16 head do. at 5c, averaging 1,204 lbs; 18 head do. at 5c, averaging 1,222 lbs.

W. H. Monroe sold 14 head Illinois steers, at 5½c ⅌ lb, averaging 1,456 lbs; 16 head do., at 5½c, averaging 1,319 lbs; 20 head do., at $5 55 ⅌ 100 lbs, averaging 1,302 lbs; 17 head do., at 5c, averaging 1,211 lbs; 12 head do. at $5 39, averaging 1,292 lbs; 16 head do. at 5½c, averaging 1,285 lbs. New York dealers took about 240 head, but they were of an inferior class of cattle.

Milch Cows.—Farmers are now selling off their surplus stock, and the supply this week was large and consisted mainly of farrow Cows and Springers. The receipts were about 30 head, nearly all of which were disposed of to various parties. Williamsburgh dealers purchased about 120 farrows at $20 00@30 00 each; 80 head were taken to the river towns; 40 head to Long Island, and 20 to New York. About 80 head were taken by the trade here and country buyers at $15 00@30 00 for ordinary to good farrows, and $30 00@60 00 for common to good Springers and Milkers.

Sheep and Lambs.—There was a slight improvement in the demand over last week, New York dealers having taken a few droves, but the business with the East and the local trade exhibited only a slight increase. The market ruled rather stronger, and on the low grades it is quotably higher. We quote as the ruling: Common to fair, 4@4½c; fair to good, 4½@5½c, and good to extra 5½@5¾c ⅌ lb.

The average supply of Lambs is not so good as last week's offerings. We quote as the ruling: Common to fair, 5½@6c; fair to good, 6@6½c, and good to extra, 6½@6¾c, one drove having been taken at 6¾c ⅌ lb. At the close there were five loads of Sheep and two of Lambs unsold in the pens, with three to arrive.

Hogs.—Supply large and mostly sent forward, being held too high for our dealers. We quote State $5 50@5 80, and Western $5 75@6 12, the latter price for choice and heavy.—*Albany Journal.*

NEW YORK CATTLE MARKET.

Beeves.—Receipts of the week 10,400 head; fat cattle scarce and firm at 10¼@11¼c; fair to good at 9@9¾c; poorer qualities dragged, but all were sold; Chicago dressed beef selling at 6@6½c.

Sheep and Lambs.—Receipts of the week 26,700 head; in good demand; sheep at 4@6c for ordinary to good; 6¼@7¼c for choice; lambs at 6@7½c; yards well cleaned.

Hogs.—Receipts 32,500 head; market stronger; 7@7¾c for city dressed; Buffalo dressed at 7¾@8c.

CHICAGO CATTLE MARKET.

Cattle.—Market dull and nearly nominal; choice Beeves $4 75@5 00; good $4 40@4 65; medium $3 65@4 15; butchers $2 75@3 25; stockers $2 75@3 30; inferior $2 00@2 50.

Hogs.—Market active, firmer and 5@10c higher; light $5 70@5 75; good to choice heavy packing $5 80@6 10; sales chiefly at $5 70@5 80.

Sheep.—Market scarce; inferior to good $2 75@4 70.

CINCINNATI HOG MARKET.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 4.—**Live Hogs**—Market active and firm; common light, $5 00@5 40; fair to good light, $5 50@5 75; fair to good packing, $5 60@5 80; choice heavy, $5 85@5 90.

EAST BUFFALO HOG MARKET.

EAST BUFFALO, Dec. 4.—**Live Hogs**—Market moderately active; Yorkers, fair to good cornfed $5 00@5 40; best $5 50@5 75; hervy, good to best $5 70@6 00.

QUINCY MARKET, BOSTON.

Retail Prices.

Reported expressly for the Ploughman, for the week ending December 9.

BEEF, &c.

Corrected by E. Holden & Son, Nos. 49 and 51.

Sirloin Steak, lb	25 @28	Beef Liver	@10
Rump Steak	25 @28	Beef Tongue	15 @17
Round Steak	14 @20	Corned Beef	8 @12½
Rib Roast	10 @25	Smoked Beef	23 @25
Chucks, &c.	8 @12	Beef Tongue, salt	15 @17
Tripe	@14		

Pork, Lard, &c.

Corrected by Levi Flint & Co., No. 28.

Fresh Pork, ⅌ lb	10 @12	Smoked Should's	10½@11
Clear Salt Strips	11 @13	Smoked Ribs	9 @10
Single Ham	13 @14	Sausages	11@12
Corned Shoulders	8½@ 9	Pigs' Feet	@10
Briskets	11 @12	Lard	12 @13

Veal and Mutton.

Corrected by Hiscock & Son, Nos. 9 & 11.

Veal, leg	20 @25	Mutton, legs	14 @20
Veal, shoulder	12 @14	Mutton, should's	10 @12½
Lamb, ⅌ lb	12½@20		

Butter, Cheese, &c.

Corrected by C. C. Chamberlin & Co., Nos. 79 & 81.

BUTTER.		Fair to good do	10 @13
Prime	35 @38	Farm	8 @12
Choice, ⅌ lb	30 @33	EGGS.	
Medium	25 @28	Cape	@35
		Eastern	@33
CHEESE.		Northern	@32
Prime Factory	14 @16	Western	@31

Poultry, Game, &c.

Corrected by N. Robbins, Nos. 33 & 35.

Turkeys, lb	20 @ 25	Pigeons, stall fed, doz	@
Sp'g Chickens	20 @ 25	Pigeons, wild	.. @ ..
Old Fowls	15 @ 20	Widgeon, pair	75 @1 00
Geese, common	20 @ 25	Teel, ⅌ pair	50 @ 75
Geese, Mong'l	.. @ ..	Snipe, dozen	.. @ ..
Geese, Green	20 @ 25	Peep, dozen	.. @ ..
Ducks, Mong'l ⅌ pair	2 25 @2 50	Brant, ⅌ pair	.. @ ..
Ducks, blk, pr	1 00 @1 25	Coote, each	25 @ ..
Quail, ⅌ doz	2 00 @3 00	Plover, dozen	2 00 @4 50
Woodcock, pr.	@ 75	Rabbits, each	15 @ 25
Partridges, pr.	50 @ 70	Venison, ⅌ lb	15 @ 25
Eng. Pheasants, ⅌ pair	.. @4 00	Antelope	15 @ 20

Fruit and Vegetables.

Corrected by Smith, Avery & Co., Nos. 97 & 99.

Apples—		Tomatoes, qt.	.. @ ..
Table, peck	50 @ 75	Tomatoes, can	.. @ 20
Baldwins, pk	.. @ 25	Citrons, lb	3 @ 4
Russets	.. @ ..	VEGETABLES.	
Dried, ⅌ lb	6 @ 10	Potatoes, bush	.. @1 00
Pears—		Sweet Pot's, pk	.. @ 50
Table, doz.	50 @1 00	Turnips, pk	.. @ 25
Cooking, pk.	75 @1 00	Beets, peck	.. @ 25
Grapes—		Beans—	
Concord, lb	.. @ ..	White, dry, pk	50 @ 75
Isabella, lb	.. @ ..	Lima, d'd, bush	.. @6 00
Catawba, lb	.. @ 15	Cabbages, ea'h	6 @ 10
Blk Hamburg.	@ ..	Carrots, peck.	.. @ 25
Malaga	35 @ 50	Parsnips, pk	.. @ 30
Oranges—		Onions, peck.	.. @ 38
Havana, doz.	37 @ 50	Cauliflowers	15 @ 25
Florida	50 @ 75	Celery, ⅌ doz.	.. @1 50
Jamaica	@ 60	Lettuce ⅌ head	6 @ 10
Messina	@	Squashes—	
Lemons, doz.	25 @ ..	Hubbard, lb.	.. @ 2
Bananas, doz	50 @ 75	Marrow, lb.	.. @ 2
Peaches, can	.. @ 25	Crookneck	.. @ 2
Whortleberries, ⅌ can	.. @ ..	Cucumbers, ea.	@ 25
Cocoanuts, each.	8 @ 12	Egg Plants, ea	.. @ ..
Barberries, pk.	1 00 @1 25	Herbs, gr'n, b'h	.. @ 5
Chestnuts, pk.	.. @2 00	Pickles—⅌ gallon—	
Shellbarks, pk.	1 .. @1 00	Cucumbers	.. @ 37
Sweet Cider, ⅌ gallon	.. @ 12	Martinos	.. @
		Limes	.. @ 50

Fish, &c.

Corrected by Walker & Rich, Nos. 113 & 117.

Bass, ⅌ lb	.. @ 20	Shad	.. @ ..
Blue Fish	.. @ ..	Pickerel, lb	.. @ 15
Codfish, fresh.	.. @ 8	Perch, doz	.. @ ..
Haddock—		White Fish	.. @ 17
Fresh, lb	6 @ 7	Salmon Trout.	.. @ ..
Smoked	.. @ 10	Brook Trout, lb	.. @ ..
Halibut, ⅌ lb—		Sword Fish, lb	.. @ ..
Fresh	.. @ 17	Lobsters, lb	.. @ 10
Smoked	.. @ 15	Frogs' Legs, dz	.. @ 62
Fins	.. @ 12½	Herring, salt	.. @ 3
Cusk, ⅌ lb	.. @ 8	Herring, smok., ⅌ doz.	.. @ 30
Mackerel, each	8 @ 25	Tongues and Sounds, ⅌ lb	.. @ 12
Mackerel, lb, Spanish	.. @ ..	Scollops, q't	.. @ 40
Eels, lb	12 @ 15	Oysters, solid, ⅌ gallon	.. @1 40
Smelts, lb.	.. @ 20	Clams, gallon.	.. @ 80
Flounders, lb	.. @ 6	Quohaugs, solid, ⅌ quart	.. @ 40
Salmon, ⅌ lb—			
Fresh	.. @ ..		
Smoked	.. @ 25		
Pickled	.. @ 20		

Wholesale Prices.

INSIDE QUINCY MARKET.

Beef, &c.

Corrected by E. Holden & Son, Nos. 49 & 51.

Beef, Mess, ⅌ bbl, cash	14 00 @15 00	Family, bbl	18 00 @20 00
		Tongues, bbl	24 00 @26 00

Pork, Lard, &c.

Corrected by Levi Flint & Co., No. 29.

Pork, Boston ex Clear, bbl.	23 00 @24 00	Ohio Prime	16 25 @16 50
Boston No. 1 per bbl	22 00 @23 00	Lard, ⅌ lb	10½@.. 11½
Boston No. 2	21 00 @22 00	Ohio leaf, lb	11 @.. 11½
Ohio ex. cl'r	21 00 @22 00	Hams, Bos'n ⅌ lb	12 @.. 14
Ohio Mess	16 25 @16 50	Hogs, whole	.. @.. 8

Veal and Mutton.

Corrected by Hiscock & Son, Nos. 9 & 11.

Calves, ⅌ lb	8 @.. 13	Lamb, sp'g, lb	16 @.. 20
Sheep, ⅌ lb	6 @.. 14	Do. ⅌ lb	10 @.. 12

Butter, Cheese and Eggs.

Corrected by C. C. Chamberlin & Co., No. 79.

BUTTER.		CHEESE.	
Prime	32 @ 34	Fine Factory	13 @.. 14
Choice	30 @.. 31	Fair to good do	7 @.. 10
Fair to good	25 @.. 28	Farm	5 @.. 11
Common	18 @.. 23	EGGS.	
Choice West'n	25 @.. 28	Eastern	.. @.. 31
Fair to good do	20 @.. 23	Northern	.. @.. 30
Choice old	.. @.. ..	Western	27 @.. 29
Common	.. @.. ..	Cape	.. @ 32

Fruit and Vegetables.

Corrected by Smith, Avery & Maynard, No. 97.

FRUIT.		Jacksons	.. @ 2 75
Apples, bbl.	1 50 @ 2 00	Onions, bbl.	.. @ 2 00
Cranberries, bbl		Beans, white—	
Country	7 00 @ 8 00	Medium, bu	.. @ 2 50
Cape	9 00 @10 00	Pea, bush.	.. @ 3 00
Lemons, b'x.	4 50 @ 5 50	Squashes, cwt—	
Oranges, box—		Hubbard	.. @ 1 50
Havana, bbl	.. @ 8 00	⅌ ton	.. @30 00
Florida, box	.. @ 4 00	Marrow	.. @ 1 00
Messina	.. @.. ..	⅌ ton	.. @20 00
VEGETABLES.		Crookneck	.. @.. ..
Potatoes, bbl—		Pickles, bbl—	
Early Rose	.. @ 3 00	Cucumber	9 00 @12 00
Common	.. @ ..	Limes	6 50 @ 7 50

BOSTON HAY MARKET.

RETAIL PRICES.

Country, ton	25 00@26 00	Straw, hund	85@ 1 00
Salt Hay, ton	13 00@16 00		

BOSTON SEED MARKET.

Corrected by J. Breck & Son, 51 North Market St.

Barley, bush.	1 00 @ 1 25	Hung'n Grass, bush	1 25 @ 1 50
Buckwht, ⅌ bush	1 00 @ 1 25	Millet, bush.	1 25 @ 1 50
Clover, White Dutch	45 @ 50	Red Top, sak.	3 00 @ 3 25
Clover, Red, lb	14 @ 16	R. I. Bent, bu	3 00 @ 3 50
Flax Seed	2 00 @ 3 00	Winter Rye, ⅌ bush	1 25 @ 1 50
Fowl Meadow, ⅌ bushel	3 50 @ 4 00	Wheat, Sp'ng, ⅌ bush	3 00 @ 3 50
Herds Grass, ⅌ bush.	2 25 @ 2 50	Orch'd Grass, ⅌ bush	3 00 @.. ..

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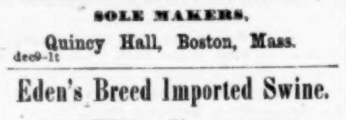

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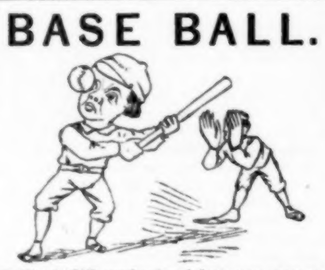

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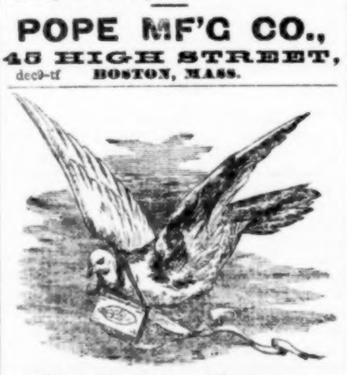

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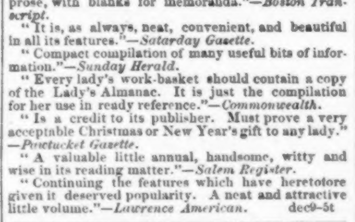

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25 FANCY CARDS, all styles, with name, 10 c. 30 Fancy New Year Cards, with name, 20c. 30 Bon Ton Cards, Beautiful, with name, 20c., postpaid. J. B. HUSTED, Nassau, Rens. Co., N. Y. dec9-1t

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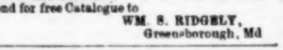

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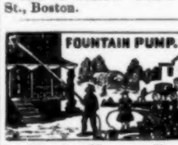
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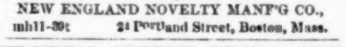

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sep30-tf

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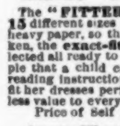

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IS hereby given, that the subscriber has been duly appointed Administrator of the estate of LUCY PEIRCE, late of Boston, in the County of Suffolk, deceased, and has taken upon himself that trust by giving bonds, as the law directs. All persons having demands upon the estate of said deceased are required to exhibit the same; and all persons indebted to said estate are called upon to make payment to
HORACE PEIRCE, Administrator.
Boston, Nov. 13, 1876. dec2-3t*

Notice

IS hereby given, that the subscriber has been duly appointed Executer of the will of EZRA TIRRELL, late of Weymouth, in the County of Norfolk, deceased, and has taken upon himself that trust by giving bonds, as the law directs. All persons having demands upon the estate of said deceased are required to exhibit the same; and all persons indebted to said estate are called upon to make payment to
NOAH TIRRELL, Executor.
Nov. 8, 1876. dec2-3t*

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Middlesex, ss. Probate Court.
To the Heirs-at-Law, next of Kin, and all other Persons interested in the Estate of THOMAS SWEETSER, late of Reading, in said County, deceased,
Greeting:

WHEREAS, a certain instrument purporting to be the last Will and Testament of said deceased, has been presented to said Court, for Probate, by KIRK SWEETSER, who prays that letters testamentary may be issued to him, one of the Executors therein named, the other Executor having declined said trust, and that he may be exempt from giving a surety or sureties on his bond pursuant to said will and statute.

You are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court, to be held at Cambridge, in said County of Middlesex, on the fourth Tuesday of December next, at nine o'clock before noon, to show cause, if any you have, against the same.

And said petitioner is hereby directed to give public notice thereof by publishing this citation once a week, for three successive weeks, in the newspaper called the Massachusetts Ploughman, printed at Boston, the last publication to be two days at least before said Court.

Witness GEORGE M. BROOKS, Esquire, Judge of said Court, this twenty-fifth day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-six. J. H. TYLER, Register.
dec2-3t

The TOLL-GATE! Prize Picture sent free! An ingenious gem! 50 objects to find! Address, with stamp, E. C. ABBEY, Buffalo, N. Y.
my20-40t

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Green Bay and Marquette Line

Is the only line for JANESVILLE, WATERTOWN, FOND DU LAC, OSHKOSH, APPLETON, GREEN BAY, ESCANABA, NEGAUNEE, MARQUETTE, HOUGHTON, HANCOCK and the LAKE SUPERIOR COUNTRY. Its

Freeport and Dubuque Line

Is the only route for ELGIN, ROCKFORD, FREEPORT, and all points via Freeport. Its

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Is the old Lake Shore Route, and is the only one passing through EVANSTON, LAKE FOREST, HIGHLAND PARK, WAUKEGAN, RACINE, KENOSHA to MILWAUKEE.

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are run on all through trains of this road.

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For Milwaukee—Four through trains daily, Pullman Cars on night trains, Parlor Chair Cars on day trains.

For Sparta and Winona and points in Minnesota—One through train daily, with Pullman Sleepers to Winona.

For Dubuque via Freeport—Two through trains daily, with Pullman Cars on night trains.

For Dubuque and La Crosse, via Clinton—Two through trains daily with Pullman Cars on night train to McGregor, Iowa.

For Sioux City and Yankton—Two trains daily. Pullman Cars to Missouri Valley Junction.

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For Rockford, Sterling, Kenosha, Janesville, and other points, you can have from two to ten trains daily.

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For rates or information not attainable from your home ticket agents, apply to

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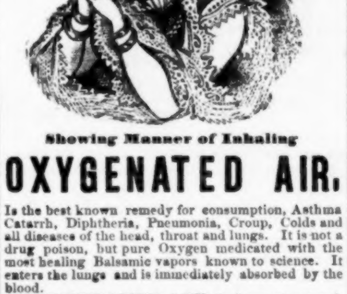

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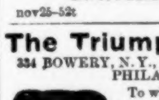

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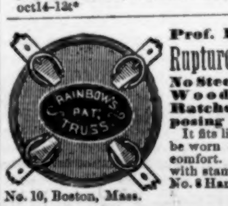

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COUNTRY HOMES & FARM ADVERTISER
PUBLISHED BY
GEO. H. CHAPIN.

NEW ENGLAND FARMS.

We present to the readers of the Ploughman with this issue, a list of very desirable country property, which we have carefully examined, and we have in each case endeavored to give careful and accurate descriptions, which upon examination will be fully verified. All property shown free of charge for our services, and

NO CHARGE TO THE BUYER IN ANY CASE.

NO CHARGE TO THE BUYER IN ANY CASE.

Parties enquiring by mail, will please enclose stamp for return postage. When in Boston, come in and look over our descriptions, whether you intend to buy at present or not. All enquiries cheerfully and promptly answered.

No. 7561—AN EXCELLENT MILK FARM, called the best farm in the town, near one of the best markets in the State; good buildings; milk sold at the door; 1½ miles south of Mendon Village, near school, containing 150 acres with a good wood lot, will cut 150 cords of oak and walnut wood; the balance is well divided, somewhat rough but mowed by machine; cuts 60 tons of hay, keeps 25 cows, yoke of oxen and two horses; 100 thrifty apple trees, producing 200 barrels of good winter apples, also pears, cherries, and berries. Excellent House of 7 rooms and L, in good repair; one of the best Barns in this region, 72x36, double boarded, with cupola and vane; fine cellar and yard, built six years ago, and cost over $3,000, newly painted; granary, &c., all in good repair. Very finely located, good neighborhood. Excellent land for grass or vegetables, and its nearness to the flourishing town of Milford makes it very desirable. Price $6,800, $3,000 cash, balance to suit. Apply to GEO. H. CHAPIN, New England Farm Agency, 24 Tremont Row, Boston.

No. 7349—IN ONE OF THE BEST DAIRY REGIONS OF NEW ENGLAND, a superior farm near Village, together with a milk route paying Two Thousand Dollars a year. Read this carefully. It is better than this description. Within half a mile of West Boylston village, 36 miles from Boston, containing 135 acres, 30 in rapidly growing wood, the balance is well divided; 40 acres are in intervale, with not a stone on it; cuts 50 tons of No. 1 English hay, besides the meadow; 75 apple trees, other fruit in variety; keeps 25 cows, a pair of horses, and sell hay each season; a trout-brook flows through the farm; 2 story House with hip roof, 12 rooms and L, painted and blinded, old fashioned but in good repair; slated roof Barn 72x35; another Barn 65x35, with cellar, ice house, etc.; a valuable milk route goes with the farm; this estate is growing in value each year and is a bargain at the price—$10,000, $3,000 cash. Apply to GEO. H. CHAPIN, 24 Tremont Row, Boston.

No. 8754—"BIRTHPLACE OF HON. DANIEL WEBSTER." The old Webster farm at Franklin, N. H., containing 150 acres, 3 miles from the village; ½ of this farm is in pine and hard wood, will cut 600 cords and some timber, cuts 20 tons of hay, keeps 10 head of stock through the year; 200 apple and pear trees; also, currants, cherries and plums; a good quantity of other varieties of fruit. The land is rolling and free from stones, of good, deep loam. A fine brook flows through the farm, and is abundantly supplied with trout. There is no doubt but this brook was the place where the youthful Daniel caught his first fish. It is well known that on this place he complained that his scythe "did not hang right," and he was told to hang it to suit himself, whereupon he hung it upon a limb of an apple tree. The House is in fair repair; the Barn is poor and needs much repairing; 2 story House with L, 10 rooms, painted; wood shed in the L; ample closets; good cellar; Barn 75x34. The buildings are shaded by the largest Elm in New England, shades 109 feet, is 21 feet in circumference. A good location for summer boarders. Price, $3,500, $1,000 cash, balance on easy terms. Apply at New England Farm Agency, 24 Tremont Row, Boston, GEO. H. CHAPIN.

No. 7466—AT HAMILTON, AN OLD ESTATE OF 200 ACRES, under good cultivation, located one mile from the Ipswich depot, on the Eastern Railroad, near the Appleton Estate, 1 mile from the village, 2 miles from Wenham depot, 20 miles from Boston, containing upwards of 200 acres, 75 of which is in rapidly growing hard wood. The balance is well divided, free from stones. The mowing and tillage level; a dark loam with clay subsoil, under good cultivation. Cuts 50 to 60 tons of English hay, by machine. Keeps 25 head of cattle through the year, and that number is now on the farm. The milk is all sold at the door. The orchard contains 100 fruit trees, thrifty and in good condition. Grapes and berries in variety. Good, large 2 story House of 10 rooms, with stoop in front, painted drab; 4 light glass; in good condition. Barn 75x38, sheep barn 25x15, carriage house, 25x12, piggery 30x10, store barn 30x20, tool house 20x15. Very pleasantly located on high land, commanding a delightful view of the surrounding country. The county road runs directly through the farm for 1 mile. The well known Appleton and Francis Dane estates are quite near. A valuable property worthy of examination. For price and terms of payment, apply to GEO. H. CHAPIN, 24 Tremont Row, Boston.

No. 8715—ONE OF THE MOST PRODUCTIVE FARMS IN VERMONT—producing in one season one hundred tons of hay (from 33 acres) and 2300 bushels of grain. Good buildings, and all in good condition; also connected therewith (or will be sold separately) a profitable Hotel, long established, and doing a good business, pleasantly located; within 80 rods of depot, on the Central Vermont Railroad; a House of 35 rooms, besides billiard room, barber's shop, Masonic hall and ante-rooms, assembly-hall, 75x40, &c. The house has a fine reputation and is doing an excellent business, it being an old established stand. The farm adjoining, contains 180 acres, free from stones and stumps; under high cultivation. In 1873 one hundred tons of hay were cut from 33 acres by machine; have raised 2,300 bushels of grain a season; one year 750 bushels of winter wheat was raised; 1,100 bushels of corn are raised in a season. For fifteen years the proprietor did not buy a barrel of flour, having raised all his wheat. The fruit is of choice varieties, comprising 425 engrafted apple trees. The buildings on the farm consist of 4 barns, besides the livery stable, 95x32, containing 35 horse stalls and doing a good business; cellar under each barn; 2½ story store-house; ice-house of 30 tons capacity; wood-house holding 75 cords; piggery 30x20; slaughter-house 30x18, doing a business of $8,000 a year. The buildings are all in good repair, and are alone worth $20,000. The buildings are all supplied with water from an aqueduct belonging to the estate, which supplies water to 21 other places in the village, and pays the interest on $2,100. Good judges say this is the best producing farm in the county. The location is just charming, amid the most romantic scenery in New England; five miles from Dartmouth College; near church, school, &c. A great bargain is offered. The owner has amassed a fortune here, and advancing years induces him to sell. He will sell the hotel without the farm, if required, but the two should go together. Price for the whole property, $13,500, on very easy terms, as the money is not needed. See fifteen views of the estate and a full description, at the office of GEO. H. CHAPIN, 24 Tremont Row, Boston.

No. 8291—A SUBSTANTIAL OLD HOMESTEAD, on which a large amount of money has been expended, located at Topsfield, containing 141 acres, 1½ miles from village, depot and churches, well fenced with stone wall, fine oak and walnut grove; wood enough for home use; cuts 25 tons or more of hay; keeps 11 cows, pair of oxen and 3 horses; 200 apple and a few pear trees, also currants; a fine strawberry bed; some seasons sell $400 worth of fruit. Land rolling, some parts rocky, rich loam, clay subsoil, borders on the Ipswich river. The buildings are good and consist of an old fashioned 2 story House of 11 large sized rooms, just remodelled and renovated throughout, newly shingled and clapboarded, painted papered and blinded, 4 light glass in windows; also farmhouse, 7 rooms, newly fitted up; Barn 80x40, clapboarded and painted; horse barn 50x38, cellars under part of both; ice house, hennery, &c. This is an excellent farm, some of the best soil in town; pleasantly located, commanding a fine view of the village and the surrounding country. The buildings have substantial oak frames, and are in complete repair. Price $10,500, $3,000 cash, balance to suit at 6 per cent. Apply at New England Farm Agency, 24 Tremont Row, GEO. H. CHAPIN.

No. 7429—A STOCK FARM AND COUNTRY SEAT AT PRINCETON—One of the most profitable farms in that region, cuts eighty tons of hay; will be shown free of expense by S. C. Young, who will always be found at our Hubbardston office, to show farms in his neighborhood, and always without charge, whether a sale is effected or not. A short distance from the Wachusett Mountain, within 1½ miles of depot, and only half a mile from the village, churches, high school, &c., containing 173 acres, well divided, level and free from stones; cuts 80 tons of hay by machine; keeps 40 head of cattle through the year; the milk sold at the door; the orchard comprises 200 apple trees, also cherries, grapes, and berries in variety; water is supplied to the various buildings by aqueduct and wells; excellent 2 story House with L and piazzas, 13 rooms, high studded, painted and blinded; fine cemented cellar; fine Barn 60x40, with cellar; horse stable 50x40, carriage house, piggery, granary, ice house, sheds, superior hennery, &c., all in fine repair, beautifully located; shade trees in front; one of the best stock farms in Worcester county. Price $12,500, on easy terms. Apply to S. C. YOUNG, Hubbardston depot, or to GEO. H. CHAPIN, 24 Tremont Row, Boston.

No. 7377—PREMIUM FRUIT FARM AT CONCORD, only sixteen miles from Boston; the fruit crop worth $4,000. Price reduced Twenty-Three Hundred Dollars. A farm worth having. The wood will sell for Seven Thousand dollars. At Concord (near the Lincoln line,) 1¼ miles from depot, containing 160 acres, 30 in wood of good growth, will cut 1,000 cords, worth $7 per cord at the village. The balance is free from stones and under high cultivation. Cuts 60 tons or hay by machine; the hay was worth $1,800 last season. The fruit is of the choicest varieties, comprising: 600 apple trees produced last year 1,000 barrels apples; 200 pear trees produced last year 80 bushels pears; 200 peach trees produced last year 30 bushels peaches; 4 acres strawberries; 1 acre raspberries; 1 acre grapes; 10 bushels quinces; 15 bushels cherries; 2 tons grape. Three-fourth acre asparagus, besides plums, cherries, quinces, blackberries, and currants. $800 worth of raspberries, besides quantities of blackberries, currants, and large receipts from the asparagus. Many of the pears bring $6 per bushel, the peaches $7. The fruit crop must bring $4,000 the coming season, at a low estimate. Good water is supplied by five wells. The buildings are all in good repair, comprising a 2 story House of 13 rooms, with L and piazza, painted and blinded; fine cellar with brick floor. Excellent Barn, 50x40, with cellar, cupola and lightning rods, clapboarded and painted. The barn is connected with the house by a long shed containing carriage and wood-rooms, also stock barn, ice house with dairy house attached. The buildings are pleasantly located on high land, shaded by noble elm, ash and Linden trees. The neighborhood is very superior. The town is one of the best in the State; the new library building, recently completed, cost $75,000. The educational and religious advantages are unsurpassed, the railroad connection with Boston good, and altogether this farm presents every advantage to a gentleman desiring a profitable farm and within easy access to the city. Price $13,500, on easy terms of payment. Apply to GEO. H. CHAPIN, 24 Tremont Row, Boston.

No. 7577—WE HAVE CAREFULLY EXAMINED this place and find it worthy of special attention. Located within half a mile of Wrentham Centre, twenty-five miles from Boston, one of the most pleasant villages in the State. Convenient to various churches, superior schools, and extensive straw manufactories; containing 65 acres, 20 in wood, enough for the use of the place. Most of the balance is level and free from stones. Cuts 20 tons of hay. Keeps 8 cows and a pair of horses. Choice fruit in variety in bearing. Two story House of 11 rooms with L, blinded; needs outside painting, otherwise in good repair. Fine Barn, 50x40, with cellar, cupola and vane; shed, carriage house and piggery, all in good repair. Very pleasantly located on high land, within half a mile of the celebrated "George's Park." This estate is every way desirable, and is a decided bargain at $3,200. On easy terms. Apply to GEO. H. CHAPIN, 24 Tremont Row, Boston.

Full particulars obtained of

GEO. H. CHAPIN,
NEW ENGLAND FARM AGENCY,
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FARMS FOR SALE,

AT THE

NEW ENGLAND FARM AGENCY.

No. 8177—BEAUTIFUL ESTATE AT LANCASTER, containing forty acres. One of the best pieces of property in the town. The House sets back from the street, with a fine lawn in front approached by a carriage drive, lined by ornamental and shade trees. The land is valuable for building purposes, as it is the only desirable lot of land in the village that can be had at the present time; is near depot, churches and schools. The estate is well fenced with stone and wood, with an iron fence in front of the House. There is a fine oak grove of about one acre. The farm cuts 25 tons of hay, and will keep 12 head of stock; fruit enough for home use; land level and free from stones; a good rich black loam; pump in the House, hard and soft water. The buildings are in good repair, and consist of a large 2 story mansion House with L, 14 rooms, ample closets, etc., painted and blinded, inside shutters, good cellar, heated by furnace, large milk room, granite underpinning, steps and walk. Also, on the estate are 3 small tenement houses in good repair. Excellent Barn 75x40, 16 foot posts, clapboarded and painted, with slate roof; a wagon house connects the House with the Barn. Lancaster is justly proud of its churches and schools, and its low taxes. It has the finest roads and bridges that are to be found in the State; several of Boston's merchant princes have residences in this town. Full particulars obtained at the New England Farm Agency, GEO. H. CHAPIN, 24 Tremont Row, (up one flight) Boston.

No. 8813—RARE OPPORTUNITY OF SECURING A VERY PROFITABLE CRANBERRY FARM, together with valuable deposit of Infusoria, which has been changed by a patent process into Tripoli, and has proved a success for the use of manufacturers of articles of silver and gold. Mr. Sibley of Waltham, has put it upon cloth, and is better than the choicest of imported emery, and immense quantities of peat. Eighty acres of choice peat land; the owner has a patent machine for separating the peat from the roots, and pulverizing it ready for moulding; there is also a patent machine for manufacturing peat, which is calculated will make and dry for use in 24 hours, 50 tons, by burning 5 tons of peat and costing only $1 50 per ton, and will pay well. This machine is now in successful operation. The cranberry land now yields 200 barrels per year and can be largely increased. The land can be flowed or drained at pleasure, is now drained to the peat deposit. 75 acres in cedar, maple and hemlock wood. Samples of clay, very choice, have been found here. 500 rods of dykes are now made and ready to set with raspberries and blackberries. The deposit of Infusoria is a fortune in itself. Dr. Hayes has analyzed it, is said to be equal to the imported article, has been used in its natural state for making Ransom's Patent Building Stone now manufactured at Chicago, have sold it by the ton to go West. A large amount has been sold here; has also been used to make hone and emery wheels; to any party who has money and energy here is a rare chance not often met with. These lands are 3½ miles from Fall River, 2 miles from Westport Factory Village; water communication within 1½ miles. The Fall River Railroad extends the whole length of the estate, the cars stopping near the buildings. On the premises there is a small House 16x30, finished; also, Barn 20x20, with a warm cellar. Full particulars of GEO. H. CHAPIN, 24 Tremont Row, Boston.

No. 7730—ELEGANT RESIDENCE IN THE TOWN OF FRANKLIN, near the celebrated "Dean Academy." Ray Brothers elegant estate. A large and convenient House with cupola, containing eleven rooms, exclusive of closets; rooms large and high studded, hung with the richest paper; hall 10x10, cost $1500 to finish; bath room and conservatory; hot and cold water throughout; white marble mantels and wash bowls; soapstone tubs and sinks; set kettle; force pumps Walker's range; fine cellar, cemented floor. The grounds comprise 45,000 feet of land, beautifully laid out with a fine collection of pear, peach and plum trees; 22 grape vines; large quantities of raspberries and strawberries; $1000 or more have been expended on the fences. The conservatory is full of rare plants and flowers. The grounds are simply elegant, circular walks and drives, located in one of the most pleasant villages in the southern part of Massachusetts, embracing all the social, religious and educational advantages; only 5 minutes' walk from depot. Four photographic views on exhibition of this estate at our office. Send for price and terms, which are made low to effect an immediate sale. The house cost upwards of $15,000 to build. Full particulars promptly sent to any address by GEO. H. CHAPIN, New England Farm Agency, 24 Tremont Row, (up one flight) Boston.

No. 8297—HIGHLY PRODUCTIVE FARM IN THE SEASHORE TOWN OF MARSHFIELD, worthy of careful attention, containing 200 acres at North Marshfield, 120 acres in oak and pine wood; will cut 40 tons of hay; keeps 20 head of stock; 200 apple trees, 100 pear trees, 75 peach trees, 100 grape vines, currants, etc. The land is sloping gently to the south and very free from stones; within 50 rods from good boating and fishing; 3 wells of excellent water; pump in the House; good buildings consisting of a 2 story House of 18 rooms, plenty of closets; good cellar; wood house; Barn 64x33, front clapboarded, the rest shingled; 3 horse stalls; 20 cow stalls; Barn will hold 100 tons of hay; good cellar, opening to the south. Also, an old Barn 30x30; a good farm, and in every respect a desirable homestead. There is a river half a mile from this place, affording good boating and fishing. Particulars at the New England Farm Agency, 24 Tremont Row, Boston (up one flight) GEO. H. CHAPIN, or apply to HENRY G. FORD, at Marshfield Centre depot, who will show this estate to all applicants free of expense, and will be happy to answer any enquiries by mail. The cars leave Boston for Marshfield at 8.45, giving applicants ample time to examine the property and return to Boston the same day.

No. 8644—AN ESTATE ON "GRAND VIEW MOUNTAIN," AT ADDISON, VT., which is 1310 feet above the water of Lake Champlain, containing between five and six hundred acres, mostly covered with wood and timber in great variety; saw mill, containing a steam engine of 25 horse power, circular saw, bolting saw, shingle machine, slitting saw and a plainer, all first class and in good order; 1½ story House at the mill, containing 13 rooms, all finished; fine cellar; stable and shed with accommodations for 20 horses; well and cistern water; on top of the Mountain about ¼ of a mile from the mill is a 2 story House 40x26, not entirely finished, designed for a kitchen and dining room for a larger house; near the House stands an observatory, 68 feet in height, substantially built, commanding a view of Lake Champlain and the valley between the Green Mountains and the Adirondacks, and from South Bay, Whitehall and Lake George to Cumberland Head north of Plattsburgh, N. Y., and pronounced by travellers to be one of the richest views in North America. The great importance of this property lies in the fact that it is a desirable sight for a hotel. The visitors to the mountains increase from year to year, and more wish to stop than can be accommodated. There is a Blacksmith's shop and tools. Also, a large quantity of sawed lumber all seasoned and ready for building purposes. Timber in abundance and machinery on the mountain to put the timber in shape for building. For price and terms, apply to GEO. H. CHAPIN, 24 Tremont Row, Boston.

No. 8807—IN THE CITY OF NEWTON, the model city of New England with its many advantages and unsurpassed railroad facilities, a valuable estate of twenty-three acres, on a broad street, lighted with gas, and water pipes soon to be laid; smooth and level land, free from rocks, and under very high cultivation; every acre can be tilled, and will cut 20 tons of the best quality of English hay. The fruit is of choice varieties, and comprises over one hundred pear, apple, peach and cherry trees, producing large crops. The buildings are commodious and attractive, comprising a modern 2 story House with L, and piazzas, slated roof, 14 high studded rooms; hard and soft water; excellent stable 50x40, with cellar; clapboarded and painted, with cupola and vane; other outbuildings, all in perfect repair; insured for $12,000; very pleasantly located and very desirable. (We would here say that we probably have the finest and largest list of property for sale in Newton and vicinity, that was ever before offered for sale, and many of the estates are great bargains. We invite special attention to this list.) The land lies well for subdivision, and a great amount of money could be made by cutting this into house lots, as it is eligibly located, being ten minutes' walk from one depot and five minutes' walk from another; with churches and schools within a short walk. Altogether this property presents great attractions to the capitalist as an investment to the practical farmer as a vegetable farm, or to the merchant doing business in the city as a homestead; being located within seven miles of State street, over one of the best driving roads in the country. For price and photograph of the buildings, apply to GEO. H. CHAPIN, 24 Tremont Row, Boston.

Nos. 8430 and 31—A SPLENDID ESTATE, NINE MILES FROM BOSTON, upon which a fortune has been expended, and now offered for sale at an immense sacrifice. Worthy of the attention of capitalists, or of anybody desiring a substantial homestead; only five minutes' walk from depot, ½ mile from the thriving village of Stoneham, with its various churches and ample schools. The well known John Hill farm, containing 25 acres of highly improved and productive land, 9 acres in oak and pine wood; cuts 25 tons of hay, keeps 8 cows and 2 horses; 20 apple and 100 pear trees, also grapes, strawberries, thimbleberries, &c. Elegant 2 story House, slated roof, 2 bay windows, piazza, 13 rooms finished in hard wood, ample closets, one finished in cedar; bathroom, hot and cold water, furnace, &c., &c., everything new and in complete and perfect order; ice house; stable, slated roof, clapboarded and painted to match the house. Also, 1½ story House, 7 rooms, in good repair for farm help. Also, Barn 60x42, none better in Middlesex County; cost $8,000 to build; clapboarded and painted, cupola and vane. Thorough, convenient and ample in all its parts, hay loft, granary, carriage room, harness room, tool room, stable room for cattle, and stalls for horses, sub basement for manure, root cellar, piggery, hennery, &c., granite side wall; in short, no expense has been spared in or about the buildings, or upon the land to make it the most desirable and productive farm in the vicinity of Boston. Apply at New England Farm Agency, GEO. H. CHAPIN, 24 Tremont Row.

No. 7601—SUPERIOR FARM AT BOXBORO', with excellent buildings. An attractive homelike place near the village. Within ¼ mile of churches, near school, containing 100 acres, 20 of which is in wood; the balance is well divided, sloping; the mowing and tillage free from stones; cuts about 35 tons of hay and 10 tons of fodder, by machine. The milk can be sold at the door, or at West Acton depot, 2 miles distant, for 28½ cents per can, from April to October, and 35½ cents from October to April. Fine orchard of 100 trees, in bearing, and an old orchard of 75 trees, good only for cider. Small fruit in variety. Large 2 story House of 15 rooms, with two L's. Fine Barn, 72x40, which cost $2,500 in 1869; split granite cellar walls; water in the cellar; tie-up for 18 cows; clapboarded and battened; well painted; with cupola, so arranged that the cattle go to the cellar without going outdoors. Granary, tool-house, etc., all in good repair, except one building needs shingling. This is said to be one of the best dairy-farms in the town. Good neighbors, excellent roads, low taxes. The whole town debt is only $2,500. Water can be carried all over the House if desired. and there are many other good things that we could tell you about this farm, but we have already taken up too much space. Just come to our office and we will accompany you to the farm. Price, $6,000, about half cash required. Apply to GEO. H. CHAPIN, 24 Tremont Row.

No. 7572—A HIGHLY IMPROVED STOCK FARM AT BOYLSTON, containing 225 acres with sixteen hundred cords of wood, more than enough when marketed to pay for the whole estate. Within 1½ miles from the village, containing 225 acres, 80 of which is in wood, will cut 1,600 cords, worth at least $10,000 when marketed. The balance is well divided; good early loam with clay subsoil. Cuts 50 to 60 tons of English hay by machine; winters 30 cows, pasture for 20 head; milk all sold at the door. Fine orchard of 250 engrafted apple trees, also pears, peaches, cherries, grapes and berries, producing a good quality of fruit; a brook flows through the pasture; water is supplied to the various buildings by aqueduct; 2 story House of 12 rooms with L, and piazza, painted and blinded; Barn 60x38, with cellar. Horse stable 30x30, both with matched boards, and supplied with lightning conductors; sheds, piggery 40x28; cider mill 40x28; farm-house for the help, containing 6 rooms. The buildings are pleasantly located on high land, commanding a delightful view; a row of beautiful maples line the street. Altogether this property is desirable, and is offered at a great bargain. Price $10,500, $3,000 cash, balance $1,000 a year at 6 per cent. Apply to

GEO. H. CHAPIN,
NEW ENGLAND FARM AGENCY,
20 Tremont Row,
(Up one Flight.) BOSTON

The Poet's Corner.

LOSS AND GAIN.

BY CALEB DUNN.

Losses there are which, if we view
  Them in the light of common sense,
Bring with them blessings in the form
  Of pure and perfect recompense.

One wealth possessed, who heaped his store
  Like miser, till he found, one day,
That it had taken sudden wing
  And, like a bird, had flown away.

The quick bereavement chastened him,
  As such bereavement all men can,
And, humbled, from the dust he rose
  A better and a wiser man.

Another harbored groundless spite
  Against his neighbor till the ray
Of reason broke upon his soul,
  And anger's storm-clouds drove away.

He saw his error, saw the wrong
  That he had done, and manfully
He took his neighbor by the hand,
  And found forgiveness full and free.

That loss of spite a blessing proved,
  Which love and kindness long maintained;
It was a loss of evil thought—
  Of anger for a friendship gained.

If we, by losing high regard
  For virtue, toil with hand and brain,
And reap the harvest wealth bestows—
  That acquisition is not gain;

But if we stand by virtue's side
  Through days of storm and days all bright,
And lose the wish to do a wrong,
  By losing that we win the right.

So if, when sudden troubles come,
  And in our hearts we feel a pain,
If hope be bright and doubt be lost,
  That loss shall surely prove a gain.
—*N. Y. Ledger*

Ladies' Department.

Written Expressly for the Massachusetts Ploughman.

EDNA MOORE.

A THANKSGIVING STORY.

BY E. L. TURNER.

Edna Moore stood at the window waiting for her horse to be brought round. She was a tall, handsome girl, with dark curly hair, and her fine figure showed to the best advantage in her neat dark blue riding habit. But although there is a popular superstition that to be well dressed is the surest way to make a woman feel like a good Christian, Edna did not look as if any very Christian-like feelings were passing through her mind as she stood there switching about her gold handled whip. Seated near an open fire in the elegantly furnished parlor, was an elderly lady, with a gentle, lovable face, who presently paused in her sewing to ask Edna what was the matter.

"You know well enough, mother," replied the girl, sharply, "and if you want to have any peace you had much better let me have my own way."

"If you are still harping upon our refusing to let you go to Europe with the Dashwoods, then, I suppose we must exist as best we can without peace," said Mrs. Moore, calmly; "for you are certainly not going with them. Your father and I know a great deal more of the world than you do, and you must believe us when we say that the Dashwoods are not proper people for you to be intimate with."

"Meta Dashwood is my dearest friend," cried Edna, passionately, "and I am not going to hear one word against her; and if her brother is a little wild, he is no worse than other young men, and a great deal more agreeable."

"Oh, Edna, why cannot you believe that we who love you best, do not warn you without reason? But tell me, if you can, where and how Percy Dashwood gets the money that he spends as if he were a millionaire? We know his father is only moderately well off, and he himself has no apparent occupation."

"And so, I suppose, you would like to insinuate that he steals it? Very well, it's all of a piece with your determined prejudice against him. But I think, even if you are so determined not to let me go to Europe with them all, you might let me go to the matinee and the ball with Percy, on Thanksgiving Day. He says he must have me all to himself for that one day at least."

"No, Edna, you know your cousins are coming, and besides, your father always likes us to be at home on that day."

"Well, I hate Thanksgiving Day with all my heart! I have nothing to be a bit thankful for, any way; and if I had, I think it is a vulgar, horrid way to show it, by a lot of people getting together to eat a rich, stoggy dinner, and force themselves to be unnaturally jolly, whether they will or no."

"Nothing to be thankful for!" repeated Mrs. Moore, sadly, "is a comfortable home, a life of ease and pleasure, the love of your parents, all nothing in your eyes?"

"Oh! of course I am thankful for them after a fashion, but I don't believe in making a great fuss about it. If you would only let me go to Europe now, when I wish it so much I would be as thankful as you please, and act like an angel in the house, till then. Ah, here comes Gypsy at last! I believe I am thankful for him too, because I can so easily ride away, and scatter my cares to the winds."

"I do wish you were not so fond of riding alone, Edna; I am always afraid of some accident happening when you are riding that spirited thing."

"Nonsense, mother, I'm not a baby," and with this ungracious exclamation, Edna went out to mount her favorite.

"Have a care, miss," said the groom, as he assisted her to mount, "for he's awful fresh to-day; I could scarcely get the bridle on him."

"I think I know how to manage him, John, without your troubling yourself," said Edna, proudly, as she gathered up the reins.

But she could not help seeing as soon as she rode away that for some reason Gypsey was unusually wicked. Even in going through the streets of the city, she could scarcely hold him in, and he stepped along in a spiteful manner, and kept his ears pricked up, and his nostrils distended, in a way which showed that he was only watching for the slightest excuse to run away. However, as the Moores lived on the outskirts of the city, the dangers of the streets were soon passed, and as soon as she was once in the open country, Edna gave rein to her horse and set off on an exhilerating canter. This soon turned to a gallop, but so much the better, in Edna's estimation, and by the time the first hill was reached, Gypsey was quite ready to walk quietly down it. At the foot of the hill two roads branched off, the one to the right being a way that Enda knew quite well, but the other, a narrower and rougher road, led to a very desolate part of the country, where only two years ago a traveller had been murdered on passing through a little wood. But to-day it was to the left that Edna turned. Her mother had often begged her not to take this direction, but Edna was not feeling particularly dutiful just now, and took this way of showing it.

"And when I tell her where I have been when I get back, she will see that I can be trusted to go where I please in the future," she thought.

The road led down hill for a short distance, and then came a level piece for nearly a mile, after which it began to ascend. Here there was a thick wood on both sides, but Gypsey cantered quickly up the hill, and there was still sunshine enough to prevent it from seeming gloomy. Arrived at the top, the prospect Edna saw before her was bleak enough. The road, narrower than ever, and with two deep ruts through it, made by wagon wheels, went straight on with the deep wood on one side, and on the other a rather open piece of country, covered with short grass, with stones and rocks lying about, as if washed down by a mighty flood in past ages, here and there a tree or a clump of bushes. There was something inexpressibly dreary about this spot, though it was hard to say why it should have been particularly so, and had not Edna been determined to explore this new region, she would certainly have turned abruptly here, and gone back to the city. As it was she slackened speed, and walked her horse in order to look about her more leisurely, and to try and delude herself into thinking that she did not feel in the least nervous at finding herself alone, in this desolate place.

Suddenly the silence was broken by a wagon coming up behind her, at a rapid pace; it was a loosely put together vehicle and made a fearful rattling as it approached. Gypsey, though a city bred horse, seemed to think, that such noises had no business in the country, and began at once to prick up his ears and alter his pace, and when incautiously, Edna turned him aside from the road, to give the jangling wagon room to pass, he suddenly made up his mind that this was the very opportunity he had been wishing for, and started off at a furious gallop across the country. It was in vain that Edna twisted the reins round her wrist and pulled with all her might; the horse was stronger than she, and tore along at a break-neck speed over the rough unbroken desolate moorland.

It was a fearful ride, for sometimes the land would dip, but Gypsey seemed to have been transformed into a wild creature, and sprang down these declivities as fast as if on level ground, and then rushed on, on, on, till Edna's brain grew dizzy and she almost longed to be thrown off, anything—to have this terrible gallop over.

And now the sunshine faded away—the short November afternoon was at an end, and the shadows, grim and gaunt, began to creep out from every tree and rock. At last what she had dreaded, and still almost hoped for came. Her horse in tearing along at his mad pace, trod on a loose stone and fell, rolling completely over as he did so. Fortunately he did not fall on Enda, but she was thrown over his head upon the grass with considerable force. For some moments she lay still, almost stunned by the shock, and then an intense pain in her wrists made her awake to consciousness. She found that the bridle was still twisted round them, so, though giddy and faint she struggled up upon her knees, and with some difficulty freed herself and then looked to see how her horse had fared. He was lying quite still, and it did not take more than a glance at his position to show her that the beautiful animal must be dead. Sorrow for her favorite was the only thought in her mind at first and sinking back on the turf she burst into tears at his untimely end. But soon another thought took possession of her. What was to become of her now—miles and miles away from home in a desolate country where there did not appear to be a single human habitation, with no means of finding her way home, no food to eat and no shelter for her head and night fast coming on. She rose to her feet, and gathering up her trailing habit tried to walk a little to look about her. But it was no use, she felt so weak and shaken after that fearful ride and her fall, that she was obliged to sink down upon a bank after going only a few steps.

How frightfully still it all was! There was not even the rustle of a rabbit in the bushes, not the faintest sound of any little insect or bird, nothing, nothing, but the dreary waste of rocks and trees and the darkness coming on so terribly fast and making the grim shadows creep over everything deeper and deeper still.

And so Edna sat there, long after darkness had covered everything, in its funereal gloom and her mind turned sadly homewards. At about this time, she generally laid aside her book, or her embroidery, or music, and, after sitting awhile by the cheerful fire, enjoying a bit of twilight chat with her mother, or some friend who had dropped in, sauntered up stairs to her warm, luxuriously furnished bedroom, where she would find her French maid, ready with two or three pretty dresses for her to choose from for the evening's wearing. And after she was dressed to her satisfaction she would go down to dinner, to toy with daintily cooked morsels, and probably grumble because she had no better appetite, or because some special dish that she fancied was not on the table. And then followed thoughts of the evenings, either at home or at some friend's house, where, in brilliantly lighted rooms there would be music and delightful conversation and sometimes dancing, and where she generally, as a beauty and an heiress, found herself the centre of an admiring crowd. These and many other mental photographs of her past life came crowding upon her, as she sat alone in the dreary darkness.

"Oh dear, oh dear," she thought, as she broke into bitter tears; all that bright beautiful life is gone now, gone—gone, and here I am without the slightest hope of ever getting home again. I must be twenty, if not thirty miles away I am sure, and nobody at all near me. It is impossible that I can walk home, even if I knew the way, so that here I must stay till I die of hunger and cold. Oh dear! I wonder how long it takes to die that way! Oh horrible! I must not, I *will* not starve to death! I, Edna Moore, *starve* to death when my father is almost a millionaire! It is *impossible*! It cannot be! and yet, oh how hungry I am even now; if I only had a piece of dry bread I would be satisfied. And only yesterday I was grumbling because there was no game for dinner, in addition to soup, fish and meat! How cold it is getting! Oh dear! I wonder which kills first, cold or hunger? *What! Edna Moore thinking of death by such things as these!* Cold and hunger are for *poor* people, and she is *rich*. Oh so rich! So rich! And here she will be found, perhaps years hence, a ghastly skeleton, lying on the bare earth, for want of a few of the common necessaries of life!

And Edna started up shivering at the picture her imagination had brought before her and walked about as well as her weakness would permit, to try to keep up the circulation of her blood as long as possible. But her mind would not be still. Her thoughts continued to push themselves forward. "Only this afternoon, she reflected, just a few hours ago, there I was in my happy home and grumbling hatefully to my poor dear mother; oh fearful! did I really say I had *nothing to be thankful for!* Why, I would give my whole year's allowance at this moment to be even sitting in the back kitchen at home eating 'broken victuals' like a beggar! Oh, mother, mother, what must you be suffering for your miserable daughter at this moment!" And so poor Edna thought on and on, and the more painful her sufferings became the more vividly did her past blessings present themselves to her mind.

At length while she was feebly moving about, but feeling such a weariness, an inclination to sleep crept over her, that she resolved, that the next time she sat down, she would not get up again, but try to pray and prepare herself for death. She was startled by seeing a light suddenly appear, amongst the trees, at no great distance from her. A light! so she was saved, was her first glad thought, as she instinctively turned towards it, and groped her way as best she could. It was sometime before she reached the clump of trees, and then she lost sight of the light several times but at last, she saw faintly outlined against the sky, the form of a log cabin. She soon found her way to the uncurtained window, and looked in. An old woman was the sole occupant of the roughly furnished room, and she was just laying some fresh logs on the fire, and making it snap and crackle in such an inviting manner that Edna did not hesitate a moment, but went and rapped at the door. There was no answer, but this was no time to stand upon ceremony, and Edna opened the door and stepped into the room. The old woman turned a most forbidding countenance towards her, and asked her roughly what she wanted. Edna told her story, but the old woman declared she was deaf, and could not hear a word of it. Edna repeated it very briefly; and so loud that she was certain that she had been heard this time. But the old crone pretended that this was not the case; however, she said, ungraciously enough "whoever you be, you looks cold, so you may sit a few minutes by the fire."

"And please give me something to eat 'said Edna' I can pay you for it," and she took out her gold watch from its little pocket and glancing at the time as she did so, was surprised to see that it was not yet ten o'clock.

She had no money with her, and this watch had been a birthday gift, but she felt she would willingly exchange it for a morsel of food. The old woman understood this language in a moment and her eyes gleamed with delight as she seized the treasure; and then going to a closet she produced *not* the coarse dry bread that Edna had expected, but a large meat pie that looked as if it must have come from a city restaurant, a loaf of fine white bread and a pat of fresh print butter. To these she added a bottle of whiskey at which, however, our heroine shook her head.

"The a pretty good cook Miss, ain't I; said the old woman, when Edna had made a refreshing supper. Edna nodded her head, although she could not believe that such things had really been made at the cottage, and felt there was some mystery about the place, and its inhabitant. But she was too much exhausted to wonder long, and the warmth, and the supper, together, made her feel so sleepy that her head dropped, before she was aware of it; and she fell fast asleep in her chair.

"Look'ee, lady, as you've done so handsome by me, I'll let you lay on my bed, if you've a mind to," said the old woman; come this way; and she opened the door of a small room, just large enough to contain a very narrow bed and one chair.

"There," she said "I'm a poor lone widow, living in my poor log cabin, as best I can, but if I can do'ee a kindness I am willing to do it."

"Very well," shouted Edna, to her, I think I must lie down for a little while, but where will you sleep?"

This question was apparently unheard, and as soon as Edna had laid herself down, the old woman left her, shutting the door, locking it after her, and taking out the key. Edna strongly objected to this part of the proceedings, but it was of no use to shout to be unfastened, because of the real or pretended deafness of the old hag. But Edna soon discovered that in the rude partition wall between the rooms there was a crack, wide enough for her to see what was going on in the other room. There, after the old woman had looked at the window and door, to see that nobody was about, and evidently not thinking, or not knowing of the crack, she took out the watch from her pocket, and examined it by the bright firelight, outside and in, with the greatest care. And then with a chuckle of satisfaction, she wrapped it up in a piece of paper and restored it to her pocket. Then, taking a ragged old shawl and bonnet, off a peg, she hastily slipped them on, and opening the door went out into the darkness of the night. Edna did not at all approve of being left, locked up in the cabin, in this fashion, but, making up her mind that the morning must show her some way of escape, and, that till then it was of no use to torment herself, she allowed sleep to gain possession of her, and in a few minutes was dreaming as sweetly as if she had been in her own bed at home.

She was awakened, after about a couple of hour's sleep, by the sound of footsteps, and starting up, and going to her former place of observation, she was in time to see, enter the door, the forms of three men.

"Hm! said the first one, with a kick at the logs, Sall has left a bit of fire for us, I see!" "glad she did so. It was a mere chance though, as she was not expecting us to-night."

"I hope she has been provident enough to leave us something to drink, said the third man, and as he spoke, Edna turned sick and faint with horror, for it was the voice of Percy Dashwood!

"Knock the old hag up, and see Roy, said the first speaker.

Roy, a rough red haired man, with his pants stuck into his boots, crossed the room, and commenced a violent shaking and pounding, at the door of the little cell where Edna was, to her terror, as she was afraid every moment that they would shake the frail hinges off. But after a few moments Roy turned aside with a laugh, saying "she's got one of her deaf fits on her, and won't budge for any of us, so we must see what we can find for ourselves."

A visit to the closet disclosed to view enough good things to eat and drink to satisfy the men who sat down to enjoy themselves, and entertain each other with such coarse jokes and stories, as made Edna's cheeks burn where she stood. Had it not been for the presence of Percy Dashwood, she would have stopped her ears and not listened to a word, but having seen so much, she determined to find out if she could what brought him in the dead of night to such a place and in such company.

"So you won't be one of us long, now," said Roy to Percy, after a slight lull in the conversation.

"No," said the other, shaking his head and filling up his glass again; "I suppose a few months must settle it now. She can't hold out much longer."

"I thought she was o. k., but that it was the old folks that were in the way," said the third man, whom the others called Jake.

"But you see she is under age, and it would be no use to marry the girl, and then find the purse strings drawn so tight that no 'spondulix' would be forthcoming."

"Of course not, but after all, do you think it will be worth while?" said Roy. "Now, you are free and can get all the money you care for, but then—why—these heiresses can cut up pretty rough, remember, and she'll give you 'Hail Columbia,' if you don't behave."

"Pshaw!" said Percy, contemptuously. "Do you mean to tell me that *I* can't have my own way with any woman that ever was born? Let me have fifteen minutes' talk with as many as you like of them, to find out their pet weaknesses, and *if I choose*, I can make them so sick in love with me, that they'd be ready to lie down in the mud, for me to cross the street without soiling my shoes."

"But it appears that this girl's mother still holds out."

"She does at present, but if all other means fail, I am going to try the reformed reprobate dodge on her, and that infallibly brings the old ladies round."

"When are you going to Europe?"

"I shall not go at all if she can't be persuaded. If she does go, why, I'll bet a hundred dollars that we are married as soon as we reach the other side."

"Ha, ha, fancy you with a wife! You'll be a model family man, won't you?"

"Of course I shall, and be especially hard on all such sinners, as Roy, Jake & Co."

"Well, you only have to remember that there are a few things that we might say, which would not materially add to the lustre of your name, or your chances of a Government appointment! But come, we have wasted time enough. Let us get the money and be off."

They all rose up and the table was moved aside, underneath which Edna saw a small square of carpet. This one of the men lifted up, and beneath was a trap door, opening by a secret spring. They all three went down, through this door to some room below, where Edna heard a great clinking of money, as if it were being equally divided, and from scraps of conversation that she heard, she became certain that these men were counterfeiters. After some time, they came up the short ladder into the room above, each carrying an ordinary looking carpet bag, into which they had so carefully packed the money that even when set down quite hastily, there was no sound from it.

"Still, it's a pretty risky business; be as careful as you may," said Percy, "for no matter how many hands it passes through before changing, it may any time be traced back in such a way as to nail one hopelessly. I guess you'll find that my pretty heiress will turn out the best investment after all."

"If you get her," said Roy, with a laugh and an oath, and indeed, all their conversation was freely interlarded with oaths and other vile expletives.

"Never fear," cried the other lightly; "I look upon the matter as good as settled, and now we must hurry, for I must be at Mayhew's by three o'clock, and it is after two now."

"You will have to walk pretty fast to get to the city in that time."

"But I have done it in less time, once before when—" but the rest of the speech was lost, as the men shut the door, and then Edna heard the tramp of their footsteps growing fainter and fainter in the distance. There was only one ray of comfort that Edna had gleaned from all that she had heard, and that was, that she could not be as far from the city as she had imagined, since Percy Dashwood could walk the distance in less than an hour. Her horse had evidently gone in something of a circle, and therefore she was not so hopelessly lost as she had imagined, provided she could escape from this cabin in safety. As soon as the first streaks of gray dawn appeared, she looked about her for some means of escape, and found to her delight that there was a window, which although small, was near the ground, so that she crawled through it with ease, and with a long sigh of relief, found herself free once more.

She observed that rain must have fallen in the earlier part of the night, as the ground was so soft that the footprints of the men were plainly to be seen, and by following these she soon found her way out of the wood, and up to the top of a hill, from which she saw clearly the joyful sight of her native city lying peacefully before her sleeping in the morning mist. It did not take her long to find the road leading citywards after this, and in two hours more, pale and exhausted from her adventures, she arrived at home to find that her father and a number of her gentlemen friends were in search of her in different directions, while her mother lay on the sofa, worn out with weeping and sorrowing for her child.

When Thanksgiving Day came round, instead of finding it a dull, disagreeable festival, where the dinner was the principal event of the day, Edna, with her heart overflowing with thankfulness for even the commonest blessings of her life, went to church with her parents, to join in the grand old prayers and praises, that had too often seemed such empty forms to her ungrateful heart, and especially did she say "Amen" with heart and voice to the simple and beautiful petition, with which I may fully close this little story: "And we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, and that we may show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives; by giving up ourselves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days."

[From the Phrenological Journal.]

WHO WOULD BE A WOMAN?

Men have long busied themselves with settling the boundaries of "woman's sphere." Why have they not tried to teach swans to swim, or eagles to fly, or nightingales to sing? If woman's sphere is ever to be defined so that the compasses of man can span it, the work must be done by woman herself. Her hindrances are, of course, still great; she is ignorant as yet of her best powers. As at the beginning of a great battle, there are still tremendous odds to overcome, and many victims must yet fall, and much treasure be poured out before the victory can be won; so the great struggle that shall place woman where she rightfully belongs is as yet but in its initiation. Yet woman is beginning to realize that it is initiated, and that God's hand that initiated it is pointing toward its triumphant end. And though her march must often be a painful and a tearful one, like Virgil's in Inferno—must sometimes be over the heads of the "poor weary sisters" that have fallen by the way, she must still go on. And when society shall have adjusted itself to the laws of Divine Order, she shall find herself standing, like Daniel, "in her place," and shall not need to be told what her sphere is any more than the earth needs to be told in what orbit to fly round the sun. *Meanwhile*, ah, yes, meanwhile, society is so like a pack of cards that have just been shuffled, and the said Divine Order is so much a thing of the far future, that makeshifts are necessary. Women who differ from this disarrangement of things must bring help to themselves and their sex by crossing the charmed line that has hitherto confined them within its limits, and invading, for purposes of spoil, the far wider and freer space that man has hitherto held exclusively his own. If man blinds himself to his responsibilities toward the half-angel, half-slave of whom he boasts himself the natural protector, what is she to do? Is she to starve on the barren pedestal to which he has exalted her? or willingly bend her back to the burden he chooses to assign her? She does not purpose, I opine, to do him that injustice. She says, "God has given me a heart strong to endure and quick to hope. Whether welcomed or not, I will take my place by his side and work at whatever my hands find to do. He shall see my courage and energy, and shall respect them. Wherever I go I will carry light and higher aspirations; I will meet him on his own ground and there decide the vital question whether I am created to minister to his carnal or his spiritual nature—whether my presence is to drag me lower, or lift him higher. My 'prophetic soul' tells me that I *shall* lift him higher, that this is my true mission, and the answer to the great riddle of my existence."

What woman needs most is a sense of her true value, not as a mere minister to man's external comfort, nor even to his sense of the beautiful, though both of these are good and worthy missions. He should be able to recognize her as the daily inspirer of that higher nature of his, that, but for her, would be mostly dormant in him, that spiritual sense that but gropes after the truth without the aid of her single eye.

"BITTER-SWEET."

BY JOHN W. MACKENZIE.

Hearts that ripple gayest measures,
  Deepest strains of sadness know.
Hearts that thrill with sweetest pleasures,
  Oft are chilled with deepest woe.

Hearts that wail in wildest anguish,
  Highest notes of mirth employ.
Hearts that pine away and languish,
  Wake in ecstacies of joy.

Eyes that look love's warmest passion,
  Glisten with the deadliest hate.
Man is but the dupe of fashion—
  Fashion but the slave of fate.

Hands that shower greatest blessings,
  Oft the foulest curses rain.
Hands that give the most caressings,
  Oft inflict the deepest pain.

At the parting all our pleasures
  Leave some bitterness behind;
And, in sorrow, dearest treasures
  Linger with the weary mind.

Every sweet must have its bitter—
  Every bitter have its sweet;
Sweet would not be sweet if bitter,
  Did not mingle with the sweet.
—*Phrenological Journal.*

FOR TWENTY YEARS.

It don't seem much of a story to tell, though it was a tough one to live. You see, it was more than twenty years ago that my twin brother and I sold out our homestead in New York, and went to California to seek our fortune. All the rest of the family were dead, and we two were the more attached to each other for that.

Well we tried mining, and we tried everything we could think of, but nothing seemed to prosper with us; we only grew poorer and poorer.

Finally, we thought of the idea of separating, so as to work two fields at once, before the last of our capital was gone. There was great talk just then of some new gold region, and we agreed that one of us should go there and try his luck, while the other staid in San Francisco, and carried on a little business we had started there.

Of course, everything was in partnership. I never thought of an interest separate from his, and he, I knew, felt the same.

Well, the question arose, which of us should go. It wasn't very tempting, the mining life, and neither of us was anxious for it, and so we drew lots to see who should go.

The lot fell to me.

There was another reason why I didn't want to go, besides the uncomfortable life, but I would not tell Rob; for I would not drive him off to the mines, and I knew his generous heart so well, that I was sure he would insist on going, if he were aware of all.

But—well, the truth is, in a word, I was in love, and I couldn't bear to leave my dainty Susy to fight the world alone—she was a music teacher, poor thing!—nor for other fellows to fall in love with.

However, I submitted, of course, to the lot, and made my preparations to go. It was a sad heart that I bore around to Susy's rooms that night, and I couldn't bear to tell her; but, bless you! she no sooner saw my face than she knew something was coming, and she braced herself up to meet it before she asked me a question. After we had spoken of the weather, and the book I had brought her the day before, at last she said, quietly:

"Well, Ralph, what is it? I know you have bad news for me."

"It's bad for me, Susy, and I'm afraid it will be bad for you; though you know—"

I couldn't go on, and she spoke again, brave as she always was:

"Ralph, you know I'm used to misfortunes. Tell me at once."

So I told her, and she bore it nobly—as I knew she would—though I was the only friend she had in San Francisco, except her pupils.

But I had thought of another plan to make my going a little easier. That was to make her my wife before I left, so as to leave her in the care of Rob, and relieve her from the hard life she was living.

After some persuasion, she consented to it.

So, a day or two afterward, we three—I had told Rob—went into a quiet church, and Susy was given to me to cherish and protect till death.

Brave little woman! how trustingly she gave me her heart, and how basely I failed her! How ready I was to believe———"

But let me go back. I took her to our cozy boarding-place, which was indeed a home to us, installed her as its mistress, made every provision that love could suggest for her comfort, enjoyed the bliss of a few hours' honeymoon, and then left her.

I needn't speak of that. It was hard, I tell you.

Ah, well! I'm an old man now—older by sorrow than by years; but I shall never forget the fresh, dainty look of my darling, as I left her on the steps that bitter day—a bride in the morning, a widow at night. And I never did forget it through all the black years, though it seemed as if the very memory of it would drive me mad.

Well, I went to the mines, and I tried faithfully, eagerly, for my heart was longing to get back to her. But I could not succeed. Mails were not then established, so I did not hear from my two dear ones; but all the harder I toiled, for never a thought of doubt entered my mind. I was only too glad to have my dear brother to care for her, and save her from all rough contact with the world.

Finding no luck in the mines, I determined to push on into the Indian country, and try a little hunting and trapping—for that was good business then. I succeeded a little better at that, but wandered on, and finally came out at Grazer River, where the gold excitement had broken out fiercely.

I don't know now whether it was months or years—days and weeks were alike to me for a long time—but at last I was successful, and got together five thousand dollars in the yellow dust. Of course, my only thought was of my wife, and I seized the first opportunity to send off the treasure.

A miner, going home, willingly took charge of my little pile, and soon I began to look for letters.

Bob's I could easily imagine—noble, manly, like himself. Susy's I thought of, and tried to fancy, hundreds of times, for I'd never had a letter from her. I knew it would be delicate and dainty, and like my pretty snow-drop.

Well, well, fancies may do very well, but they won't feed a hungry heart.

Day after day passed by, and no letters. My soul grew sick. I made all sorts of excuses for them. I imagined all sorts of delays. But the long, dreary days went by with leaden feet, and not a word came to the wanderer.

I grew morbid and bitter, and at last I wrote to an acquaintance in San Francisco, asking for tidings of my brother and wife.

The friend was not so neglectful as. the wife and brother.

Soon—too soon—I got a reply. I can see it now, in letters of fire. "My dear fellow," it ran, "I have made inquiries, as you requested, about your wife and brother, and I can only find that they disappeared from here a few month ago, telling no one whence they were going, but evidently having plenty of money."

What more the letter contained I never knew; that much of it was burned into my brain, and at that point I lost myself. They do say I was a raving maniac. Perhaps so; I don't know.

I only know I found myself an old man, blasted before my time, like a tree struck by lightning.

Yet, I could not feel angry. How could I blame him? Was I not mad to leave him, with his loving heart, to care for a tender young beauty like my Susy? How could he help loving her? Wasn't she all that was lovely? He was not to blame, poor fellow.

And she? Did she not love me, and was he not my twin-brother? What so strange that, seeing his love, she should grow to return it?

What should I do? Should I search them out, and blast their lives for ever? Should I come with my ignoble revenge and tear her from his arms? Would she love me for it? Should I get back my wife and brother?

Oh, no! I had been gone long enough to give her divorce—she had undoubtedly got it, and was even now his wife. His wife! Oh, God, and I could live!

Weeks, months, years, dragged on. I scarcely knew they passed. Mechanically, I worked on. Fortune, no longer sought, showered gold on me. I cared naught for it, but instinct prevented me from throwing it away. Gambling was utterly repugnant to me. No form of dissipation lured me. I was an old, old man at thirty. I only worked and thought, and lived over the old days—my one brief day of perfect joy.

I never cursed them. The hurt was too deep and too sharp for curses. From the depths of my torn heart I pitied them.

Well, twenty years rolled on, and I had got to be forty-five years old, feeling and looking more like sixty-five, bent and stiff and gray-haired.

One day, in my wanderings, I came on a travelling party of miners, bound to the gold regions. I joined them, frontier fashion, and was soon seated at their fire, exchanging news of the Indians and from the States. I chanced to mention my name.

"We've got a namesake of yours in camp," said one fellow.

"Have you?" I said carelessly. "It isn't a common name."

"No; and that's why it's odd," said he. "Besides, you somehow remind me of him, though you're much older than he. By-the-way, there he comes!"

I turned—something, I knew not what, shot through me; I rose, and knew my brother.

My heart gave one great bound. I forgot my wrongs. I saw only my dear other self, the companion of my boyhood. I sprang forward.

"Robert! dear old boy! is it you?"

He looked at me eagerly—incredulously.

"Ralph! it can't be you!"

"It is!" I cried, and—well, I don't know as I'm ashamed of it—I embraced him like a school-girl, and wept.

And so did he, poor fellow, though he could hardly believe the wrecked old man was his brother.

But what struck me, even then, as strange, he did not shrink from me, nor act as though he had injured me.

"Robert," I said, when we were alone, and calmer, "I've forgiven you long ago. We won't speak of the past—let me only be happy in the bliss of seeing you once more. I'll never come around to trouble you."

"Forgive me?" he said, inquiringly. "I don't understand. You'll never trouble me—and we'll not speak of the past? Why didn't you write to us, Ralph? Your poor little wife——"

"Don't speak of her!" I cried, in sudden agony. "I can bear anything else—spare me that!"

"But, Ralph, there's something very strange here. Why didn't you let us hear from you? Why can't I speak of her? Since you are not dead—as we supposed—why did you desert her?"

"Desert her! My God!" and I fairly laughed.

A horrible laugh, I dare say, for Robert turned pale. I could see he thought I was mad. I resolved to control myself, and since we must have it out, talk it over. So after a turn or two, I came back, and stood by him once more.

"Now, Robert, if there is any mistake here, let us understand it at once. I left you, twenty years ago, in charge of my wife, in San Francisco——"

"You did, and I——"

"And you," I interrupted, "took good care of her, and did not hear from me; and she grew tired of waiting, and loving a shadow; and you—and you—loved her!"

"Hold!" he shouted, his eyes blazing. "Who told you that infamous lie?"

"And she," I went on, not heeding him—"she grew faint and tired; and she saw your love, and she—returned it."

Robert seized my arm as though he would murder me; but I went on, coolly:

"Hush, till I have done. When you received the money I sent, you were too far gone to go back. She got a divorce; you married her, and left the city. I don't blame you."

"And you!—you've believed this thing for twenty years?" he said, calmly now, though it was the calmness of a smothered volcano.

"I have."

"You have for twenty long years believed that your wife and your brother were infamously false to you?"

"I have."

"Then, hear me, Ralph, while I swear"—and his form seemed to fairly dilate, and grow grand, as he said—"solemnly, that the whole story is a most infamous falsehood! That your wife is as true to you to-day as she was the day you left her, twenty years ago!"

"What do you mean?" I cried, frantically, overwhelmed by his manner and his words.

"What I do say, Robert. Oh! there has been some great mistake! Hear my story. After you left us, I struggled on with the business, though not succeeding very well. Susy drooped at first, but soon grew cheerful, and began to plan for your return."

His words brought the dear little creature so plainly before his eyes, that I sank to the ground, and covered my face.

"As weeks and months and years passed on," he went on, slowly, "her cheeks grew thin and pale, and a hungry look came into her eyes. I saw she was pining, and wrote letter after letter to you, but no word could we hear. There came to me in a simple envelope, directed to both of us, a draft of five thousand dollars, with not a word to tell how or from whom it came. Of course we know it was from you, but whether gift or legacy, who could tell?

"We instituted new inquiries. Nothing that love could suggest was left undone. At last we were forced to conclude you were dead. By my advice the money was invested in a farm some distance from San Francisco, and Susy went to live on it, while I started out on a sort of vagabond, wandering life, in hopes at least to find your grave—for we never believed you could be alive these long years and never let us hear. That life I have lived for fifteen years, returning once in three or four years to see to the comfort of Susy; and now I find you——"

"You find me," I interrupted, "a wreck—a miserable wretch, who has blasted three lives by his criminal weakness, his childish credulity in believing evil, and who will soon rid the earth of his presence," and I started to go, for verily despair had seized upon me.

That I should have believed that horror for so many years, and find it all a stupid mistake; that I should have thrown away my life, the blessed love of my true wife, the warm affection of my brother, for an idle scandal! It was too much to endure.

Robert laid a detaining hand on my arm.

"But Susy, Ralph! what shall I say to the loving little woman who has suffered so much for you?"

"Let her still believe me dead," I said, gloomily.

"Nay, brother; let me rather restore you to her. Ralph, go home, and let us be so happy together as to partly make up for these years of mistakes and error and grief."

Well, he persuaded me, and soon I was eager enough myself. Now the gold I had despised was valuable, as it could add to Susy's comfort. I gathered it up, and we started for home.

Home! I had not spoken the word for fifteen years.

As we went, Robert tried to prepare me for a change in Susy.

"She has had a life of sorrow as well as you, Ralph, and you must remember she isn't the girl of eighteen you left. She is nearly forty years old."

As I drew near, I seemed to grow young again, and I wanted to rush through without stopping a moment. But Robert refused; and he wanted to get me into civilized clothes, and under the hands of a barber. He wouldn't take such a wild man of the woods home to the little, waiting wife.

So we stopped a few hours in San Francisco. I had my long white hair and beard trimmed, and my dress arranged to suit Robert, and hastened on toward home.

As we approached the blessed spot where my darling lived, I could scarcely breathe, and I dreaded to frighten her to death. In sight of the house, I sent Robert ahead to tell her, and I basely hid in the shrubbery, where I could look into the window.

There she was! the same dainty figure—the same lovely face; but dressed, oh, my God! in widows' weeds, and her bonny brown hair thickly sprinkled with silver.

I saw the rapid, eager conversation. I saw the color come quickly to her face, then leave it pale as death. I saw her turn to the door, and fly. And I sprang to meet her, and—and——

Well, I can't tell about that.

and Robert was forced to see her the very unhappy wife of a poor, miserable wretch.

And what said the little woman, when she knew that I had staid away all these long years, had blasted her life, disappointed my brother's life love, made deep misery for four, by my stupid belief of a piece of gossip that, even to hear repeated, she shrank from as though it would wither her? I always knew she was an angel. She said, though with quivering lips and tearful eyes:

"Dear Ralph, let us speak of it never again. It was a dreadful mistake. Let us be happy in the years we have yet to live, and leave it to another life to adjust the errors of this."

[From Chambers's Journal.]

DOGS.

Remarkable Canine Sagacity.

A correspondent gives the following anecdotes illustrative of the remarkable reasoning powers of dogs:

The first case is one which occurred at a fashionable watering-place on the east coast of Ireland, some twenty years ago, and exhibits the remarkable sagacity displayed by a dog in carrying out the dictates of the animal passion for revenge. The jetty which stretched along the small harbor was at that time used as a promenade by the *elite* among the sojourners on the coast, where, after the heat of the long summer days, they regaled themselves with the fresh evening breezes wafted in from the sea. Among the frequenters of this fashionable resort was a gentleman of some position, who was the owner of a fine Newfoundland dog, which inherited the time-honored possessions of that noble breed—very great power and facility in swimming; and, at the period of the evening when the jetty was most crowded with promenaders, his master delighted to put this animal through a series of aquatic performances for the entertainment of the assembled spectators. Amusement being at a premium on the coast, these nightly performances grew into something like an "institution," and the brave "Captain"—for such was his name—speedily became a universal favorite on the jetty. It happened, however, that among the new arrivals on the coast there came a certain major in her majesty's army, accompanied by two bull-dogs of unusual size and strength, and of great value; but, value in a bull-dog being inversely proportionate to its beauty, the appearance of the major and his dogs excited no very enthusiastic pleasure among the æsthetic strollers on the jetty. On the first night on which the major presented himself, nothing unusual occurred; and Captain dived and swam as before. But on the second evening the brave old favorite was walking quietly behind his master down the jetty, when, as they were passing by the major and his dogs, one of these ugly brutes flew at Captain, and caught him by the neck in such a way as to render his great size utterly useless for his defense. A violent struggle ensued, but the bull-dog came off the victor, for he stuck to his foe like a leech, and could only be forced to release his hold by the insertion of a bar of iron between his teeth. The indignation of the by-standers against the major was, of course, very great; and its fervor was not a little increased when they saw the poor Captain wending his way homeward, bleeding, and bearing all the marks of defeat. Some two or three evenings after this occurrence, when Captain again made his appearance on the jetty, he looked quite crestfallen, bore his tail between his legs, and stuck closely to the heels of his master. That evening passed away quietly, and the next, and the next, and so on for about a week—Captain still bearing the aspect of mourning. But one evening about eight or ten days after the above encounter, as the major was marching in his usual pompous manner along the jetty, accompanied by his dogs, something attracted his attention in the water, and, walking to the very edge of the jetty, he stood for a moment looking down into the sea. Scarcely had the two bull-dogs taken up their stand beside their master when Captain, seizing the opportunity for which he had so long looked, rushed at his former conqueror, and, catching him by the back of the neck, jumped off the jetty, with his foe in his mouth, down some twenty feet or more into the sea. Once in the water, the power of his enemy was crippled, while Captain was altogether in his own element; and, easily overcoming all efforts at resistance, he succeeded in resolutely keeping the bull-dog's head under water. The excitement on the shore was, of course, intense. The major shouted, and called out: "My dog! my beautiful dog! Will no one save him?" But no one seemed at all inclined to interfere, or to risk his life for the ugly dog. At length the major called out: "I'll give fifty pounds to any one who will save my dog;" and soon afterward a boat which lay at some little distance pulled up to the rescue. Even then, however, it was only by striking Captain on the head with the oars that he could be forced to release his victim, which was taken into the boat quite senseless from exhaustion and suffocation, and was with difficulty brought to itself again. Captain, on the other hand, swam in triumph to the shore, amid the plaudits of the spectators, who shared, in sympathy at least, his well-earned honors of revenge.

Most remarkable than the sagacity in carrying out the desire for revenge, displayed by the Newfoundland dog in the above case, is that which the following narrative illustrates: A gentleman of wealth and position in London had, some years ago, a country-house and farm about sixty miles from the metropolis. At this country residence he kept a number of dogs, and among them a very large mastiff and a Scotch terrier; and, at the close of one of his summer residences in the country, he resolved to bring this terrier with him to London for the winter season. There being no railway to that particular part of the country, the dog traveled with the servants in a post-carriage, and on his arrival at the town-house was brought out to the stable, where a large Newfoundland dog was kept as a watch-dog. This latter individual looked with anything but pleasure on the arrival of the little intruder from the country; and consequently the Scotch terrier had not been very long in his new home when this canine master of the stable attacked him, and, in the language of human beings, gave him a sound thrashing. The little animal could, of course, never hope by himself to chastise his host for this inhospitable welcome, but he determined that by some agency chastisement should come. Accordingly, he lay very quiet that night in a remote corner of the stable, but when morning had fully shone forth he was nowhere to be found. Search was made for him, as the phrase says, high and low, but without success; and the conclusion reluctantly arrived at was, that he had been stolen. On the third morning after his disappearance, however, he again showed himself in London, but this time not alone; for, to the amazement of every one, he entered the stable attended by the big mastiff from Kent. This great brute had no sooner arrived than he flew at the Newfoundland dog, who had so badly treated his little terrier friend, and a severe contest ensued, which the little terrier himself, seated at a short distance, viewed with the utmost dignity and satisfaction. The result of the battle was, that the mastiff came off the conqueror, and gave his opponent a tremendous beating. When he had quite satisfied himself as to the result, this great avenger from Kent scarcely waited to receive the recognition of his master, who had been sent for immediately on the dog's arrival, but at once marched out of the stable, to the door of which the little terrier accompanied him, and was seen no more. Some few days afterward, however, the gentleman received a letter from his steward in the country, informing him of the sudden appearance of the terrier there, and his as sudden disappearance along with the large mastiff; and stating that the latter had remained away three or four days, during which they had searched in vain for him, but had just then returned home again. It then, of course, became quite clear that the little dog, finding himself unable to punish the town bully, had thought of his "big brother" in the country, had traveled over the sixty miles which separated them, in order to gain his assistance, and had recounted to him his grievance; it was plain also that the mastiff had consented to come and avenge his old friend, had traveled with him to London, and, having fulfilled his promise, had returned home, leaving the little fellow free from annoyance in the future.

The following well-known story is a strong example of the great intelligence that may be developed in a dog by careful training; A fashionably dressed English gentleman was one day crossing one of the bridges over the Seine at Paris, when he felt something knock against his legs, and, looking down, he found that a small poodle dog had rubbed against him, and covered his boots with mud. He was, of course, much annoyed, and execrated the little brute pretty freely; but when he got to the other side of the bridge, he had the boots cleaned at a stand for the purpose, and thought no more about the matter. Some days after this occurrence, however, he had occasion again to cross that bridge, and the same little incident occurred. Thinking this somewhat odd, he resolved to watch where the little dog went to; and leaning against the side of the bridge, he followed with his eye the movements of his dirty little friend. He saw him rub against the feet of one gentleman after another, till he had exhausted all

On hearing her story, I found that Robert had left out the tale of his own griefs. That he had warmly loved a gentle girl, but never let her know it; had sacrificed his own happiness to spend his life seeking me, and caring for my wife; that she had married another, the mud off his once white skin, then rush off down the bank of the river, and there roll himself in the mud collected at the side. Having thus got a new supply of dirt, the little animal ran up to the bridge again, and proceeded to transfer it to the boots of the passers-by, as before. Having watched his movements for some time, the gentleman noticed that on one occasion, instead of running down to the river, he went off to the proprietor of the stand for cleaning boots, at the other end of the bridge, who received very cordially. The truth then for the first time dawned on him, that the little animal belonged to the man who cleaned the boots, and was trained by him to perform these mischievous deeds, for the purpose of bringing in custom. Being very fond of dogs, the Englishman resolved to purchase this clever little fellow, and bring him back to England with him. When, however, he went to the dog's master, that person at first denied any connection with him, and only admitted the ownership when he was perfectly satisfied that his interrogator had no connection with the police. For some time also he refused to part with the little poodle, saying that no money could pay him for the loss of his dog, who really made his living for nim. Tempted, however, by a very high price, he at last consented to sell the dog; and the gentleman, a few days afterward, brought him over to England, travelling *via* Boulogne to Folkstone. His residence in England was some thirty or forty miles from Folkstone, and to this place he brought his little purchase. He had not been many days in his new home, however, when the little French poodle suddenly disappeared. Search was made for him everywhere, but to no effect. His new master offered a reward for him, but with the same result; and he had at last made up his mind that the little fellow had been either poisoned or stolen, when one morning, about six weeks after his mysterious disappearance, the gentleman received a letter from a friend in Paris telling him that his dog was back there again, and at his old trade of soiling boots in the interest of his former master. The little fellow, not liking the dullness of a country life, had resolved to return to his former home, and this made his way to Folkstone; there, as the gentleman afterward ascertained, he had got on board a steamer going to Boulogne, and from Boulogne had found his way back to Paris.

Of the foregoing three stories, the first two are probably even more remarkable than the last. The last (except as to the dog's finding its way back to Paris) illustrates only the possibility of developing in a dog, by the training of its natural intelligence, an almost human ingenuity. But it is by instilling into the dog the intelligence of a higher being that this skill is engendered. The spring of the intelligence is in the trainer, and it is to attain an object which the higher being, and not the lower, has in view. But in the first two cases the whole process is the dog's; the object to be secured, namely, revenge, is what the dog himself seeks, and the means by which that object is to be attained are devised and carried out by the instinct of the dog. That a dog should harbor revenge is, of course, not a very wonderful fact; but there is a calm reflection and a cool calculation displayed in the first two cases above given, which make them somewhat peculiar. If what we call instinct in these animals embraces powers so very like reason; if they are swayed by the same passions aud affections which move us, and they are able to communicate to their fellows the feelings which stir them, and the external circumstances which bring those feelings into play, the border line between man's mental territory and theirs becomes a little bit indefinite.

THE HORSE HOSPITAL AND HORSE HOTEL.

Horses, like men, sometimes have their ill turns and fits of sickness; and the curious part of this is, that they take cold, and have sore throats and the rheumatism, and everything else that men are liable to have if they do not take care of themselves. So there is a doctor constantly on hand to look after the company, and to give them their pills and powders. The first sign that a car-horse exhibits of sickness is a slight lameness when at work. Do you think they whip him up and make him go faster? No; they take him right to the hotel, and call the doctor. The medical man looks wise, feels of the poor fellow's feet, and says he is feverish and must have a warm bath. So the doctor's assistant takes off the patient's shoes, and leads him to the hospital for lame horses. This is a cool and shady room in the basement, and filled with comfortable stalls, and each having a big tub of warm water. Here the lame horse with fever in his feet has a foot-bath of warm water and hay-seed. He has tramped many a weary mile over the stones of Third avenue, and the bath is grateful and comforting, and he holds his feet in it with resignation and patience, as if he felt sure that the wise doctor knew what was best. Then, after the fever has gone, the doctor's man dresses the patient's feet and wipes them dry, and the horse feels a hundred times better, and thinks he could try that long tramp down town again without misgivings. The shoemaker puts on new shoes, and the convalescent goes to his own room for a good supper and a night's rest, and to-morrow he will be all right again.

THE HORSE HOTEL.

There are several horse residences in New York. They each have beds for hundreds of horses, and the dining-tables are a hundred times larger than those of the "Fifth Avenue" and "Windsor" put together. The Horse Hotel, the largest one of all, is on Third avenue, between Sixty-fifth and Sixty-sixth streets. It is one vast iron building, six hundred feet long and two hundred feet wide, and covers an entire block. It is three stories high, with a basement, and two thousand horses belonging to the Third Avenue Railroad Company reside there in a style of splendor and luxury quite unknown to horses who have never travelled from their native farms. There are waiting and reception rooms, nice quarters for horses who happen to have a cold or a headache; there is a fine hospital for those who are very sick; there is a house surgeon and shoe-maker, to say nothing of a cobbler to put on new heels or otherwise repair their shoes; and there is a housekeeper and a whole army of waiters and chamber-maids, also, a chief cook, with a dozen assistants. Altogether, the hotel is unsurpassed for horse-luxury and elegance; and if the horses could tell what they think about it, doubtless there would be a mass meeting of the guests, with a vote of thanks to the managers, or at least a committee of three to wait on the housekeeper and chief cook, with an appropriate set of resolutions expressive of appreciation of their "kindness and attention," and full of words like "elegant apartments," "choice viands," "politeness," "urbanity," etc., etc.—*Charles Barnard, St. Nicholas for December.*

FEROCIOUS BEAR FIGHT.

In the western pit a great, savage, old cinnamon bear was in company with five small black bears, all about the same age—two-thirds grown—twenty months old. Uncle J. Robinson presented this big bear to the Garden, and he says it is a cinnamon bear, one of the most ferocious species next to the grizzly. When with the show he was troublesome, and it was always found necessary to keep him chained in his cage. Be it said to big cinnamon's credit that he has lived in the Garden for a year with the five little bears on terms of intimacy and good fellowship. But the little ones were grown almost into full-sized bears, rivals of old Cinnamon—as we shall call him. It is supposed that visitors threw food into the pit, and that the little ones, being nimbler than old Cinnamon, got more than he did, and this excited his jealousy. From whatever cause, the other afternoon old Cinnamon mounted the most active of the little bears, and then commenced a fight such as human eyes seldom look upon. Two of the four other bears climbed the snag of a tree set up in the pit, a third clambered up the iron gate, and the fourth paced round the pit in a tremor of terror. The noise of the conflict drew a crowd to the scene, many of whom were ladies. Cinnamon's style of fighting was to seize his adversary by the throat, just back of the ear and quartering under the jaw, close upon him like a steel trap and hold him down, shaking occasionally with short shakes, but always bearing down and holding fast. The little one, which was only half or two-thirds the weight of his assailant, shrieked most human-like. At first his cries were appaling like the words, "Take care! take care!" but they soon faded into a succession of hoarse, gurgling sounds. The keeper, Mr. J. Nordheim, tried the effect of punching him with a pole to make Bruin quit his hold, but it was no go. He next threw a lot of fresh fish in right under his nose, but the bait did not take; then the water was thrown on him—a big stream from a hose. This made him let go. The little, lacerated blacky got up, and made circles around the cage, shrieking and crying at a terrible rate, while the bear on the gate bars, and the two perched in the tree shook like blown leaves, as if fearing their turns would come next. The little one, that had stood on the floor a looker on all the while, crouched in the corner, half in defiance and half in fear. Old Cinnamon ate his fish, and then returned to the little bear. The little bear jumped into the pool, and old Cinnamon pounced on him to drown him, as the spectators feared. Again the hose was applied. Old Cinnamon did not seem to mind it. He tugged little blacky out of the pool, and commenced chewing him up. At this moment Nordheim bolted right into the den, armed with a long-handled heavy spade. "Oh, don't go in," shouted men and shrieked women, but he passed the portals. Thud, thud, thud—three thuds of the shovel on Bruin's head released little blacky, but turned Cinnamon on brave Nordheim, who had nothing but a spade. Thud, thud—down went Cinnamon, and up he got again, and staggered close to little blacky, and opened the fight again. Thud, thud, thud, thud—thick and heavy fell the blows on old Cinnamon's skull. The old beast loosened his hold, and ran into the dungeon next the pit. "Unlock that gate," shouted Nordheim to Mr. Tenner, "and I will lock him up for good now." Mr. Tenner obeyed, and Nordheim shut the door. Once the door was securely shut, it was amusing to see the four frightened but unhurt bears leave their posts and strut up to that door, then stride around the cage after the style of Mose, as much as to say, "Won't somebody please knock a chip off my shoulder?" Around and around they marched, returning to the door, smelling it, feeling it cautiously, and rearing up against it, as if to make sure that all was safe, then strutting off, Falstaff like, when the danger was gone.—*Cincinnati Inquirer.*

THE BIRTH OF LOVE.

BY M. E. WESTON.

The little birds upon the hillside lonely,
  Flit noiselessly along from spray to spray,
Silent as a sweet wandering thought, that only,
  Shows the bright wings and softly glides away.

So in *my heart* a sweet unwonted feeling,
  'Tis like the wind in ocean's hollow shell,
Through all its secret chambers sadly stealing,
  Yet finds no words its mystic charm to tell.
—*Noah's N. Y. Times and Messenger.*

Anecdotes.

A WIFE'S HARD LOT.—Dundar's wife listened to a long political discussion while riding down town yesterday morning, and at dinner time she remarked to her husband:

"Well, eight or nine days more will decide this election."

"In a measure," was his guarded reply.

"I am awful glad," she continued. "You commenced going out nights about the 1st of March, and you've kept it up ever since. I'll be one happy woman about the 8th of November. We'll have cheerful fires, games, comfort, and——"

"Charlotte," solemnly interrupted the husband, "can't you understand this thing? The election will occur on the 7th proximo, of course. After that date I must help to count the returns, verify them, put our clubs in training for the next campaign, examine the lies of the opposition and so forth, and it may be next April before I get through. You must have patience, for everything is working all right."

What could she do but burst into tears?—*Detroit Free Press.*

☞ The late Dr. ——, of Scotland, being one of the moderates, did not satisfy, by his preaching, a portion of his flock. "Why, sir," said they, "we think ye dinna tell us enough about renouncing our ain righteousness." "Your own righteousness!" exclaimed the excited clergyman, "I was not aware ye had any righteousness to renounce."

☞ A gentleman said the other day to a negro servant at the hotel where he was staying: "Tell me, Sambo, how did you get so black?" "Why, look a here, massa, de reason am dis—de day dis chile were born there was an eclipse." Sambo got a quarter for his satisfactory explanation, and after grinning thanks, continued: "I tell you what, massa, dis nigger may be black, but he ain't green nohow."

☞ They had been engaged a long time, and one evening were reading the paper together. "Look, love," he exclaimed, "only fifteen dollars for a suit of clothes!" "Is it a wedding suit?" she asked, looking naively at her lover. "Oh, no!" he replied, "It's a business suit." "Well, I meant business," she replied.

☞ From London *Fun*:—"Mistress:—'You're going to your brother's wedding to-day, aren't you, Martha?' Martha:—'Yes, 'm, and I was agoin' to ast you, 'm, if —yer see we're much o' the same 'eighth, an' figger, and completchon, and style, as they say—if yer could lend me a gownd to go in!'"

☞ Things bought as "great bargains" are mostly parted with afterwards at "a tremendous sacrifice."

BISHOP SOULE'S
LINIMENT

Is a POSITIVE CURE for Sciatica, Rheuma Neuralgia, Spinal Complaint, Contracted Cords, Lame Back, Sprains, &c. It has cured cases given up by physicians as hopeless, AND IS THE ONLY CERTAIN CURE FOR SCIATICA. TRY IT, IT WILL CURE YOU. Always procure large bottles for severe cases. Large bottles $1.50, small bottles 75 cts., half dozen large bottles $7.50. Sold by all druggists. F. W. RYDER & SON, Proprietors, Boston, Mass. Send stamp for "HOUSEHOLD CASH BOOK." my8–ostf

JUST WHAT YOU NEED.
BURT'S
DYSPEPSIA
CURE
AND LIVER INVIGORATOR

Is the best family medicine in the world. For DYSPEPSIA, CONSTIPATION, INDIGESTION, SICK HEADACHE, PILES, etc., it has no equal. You can eat any kind of food without being distressed, after taking a few doses. Try it. IT WILL CURE YOU. Sold by Druggists for $1 per bottle. F. W. RYDER & SON, Proprietors, No. 5 Boylston Hall, Boston. nov11–os52t

DR. C. W. CALKINS,

SO long and favorably known, on Pleasant Street, this City, as a kind and skillful Physician, has returned to Boston to reside permanently, and resumed practice at 293 Tremont Street, where he hopes to receive the patronage of his old friends.

Patients from out of town, can be provided with good accommodations, if desired, while under treatment. *Special attention* given to diseases of Women and Children. *Please preserve this notice.* jy15–oe26t

FARMERS!
For Hats and Gloves at Bargains,
The Bee Hive
takes the lead. 278 Washington St., corner Water St
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W. F. Stone, Dentist,

HAS REMOVED from Winter St. to 17 Beach St., near Washington St., where he will continue to do thorough and finished work at low rates. Teeth inserted from $10 to $20 a set. Perfect satisfaction warranted or no charge. sept30–13tos

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This Standard article is compounded with the greatest care.

Its effects are as wonderful and satisfactory as ever.

It restores gray or faded hair to its youthful color.

It removes all eruptions, itching and dandruff; and the scalp by its use becomes white and clean.

By its tonic properties it restores the capillary glands to their normal vigor, preventing baldness, and making the hair grow thick and strong.

As a dressing nothing has been found so effectual, or desirable.

Dr. A. A. Hayes, State Assayer of Massachusetts, says of it: "I consider it *the best preparation* for its intended purposes."

BUCKINGHAM'S DYE,
For the Whiskers.

This elegant preparation may be relied on to change the color of the beard from gray or any other undesirable shade, to brown or black, at discretion. It is easily applied, being in *one preparation*, and quickly and effectually produces a permanent color which will neither rub nor wash off.

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WANTED, AN AGENT in every town and schoolroom for my VISITING CARDS. Inducements never thought of before. 25 neatly printed White Cards, with Circular, for 8 cts. in postage stamps. Live Agents, with this sample pack, can get 20 names an hour easily. Agencies fast being taken. Quick, or you are too late!—Largest variety on earth at my office.
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CURES THE WORST PAINS IN FROM ONE TO TWENTY MINUTES.

NOT ONE HOUR

After reading this advertisement need any one
SUFFER WITH PAIN?

Radway's Ready Relief
IS A CURE FOR EVERY PAIN.

IT WAS THE FIRST AND IS
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That instantly stops the most excruciating pains, allays Inflammation, and cures Congestions, whether of the Lungs, Stomach, Bowels, or other glands or organs, by one application.

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No matter how violent or excruciating the pain the RHEUMATIC, Bed-ridden, Infirm, Crippled, Nervous, Neuralgic, or prostrated with disease may suffer,

RADWAY'S
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WILL AFFORD INSTANT EASE.

Inflammation of the Kidneys, Inflammation of the Bladder, Inflammation of the Bowels, Congestion of the Lungs, Sore Throat, Difficult Breathing, Palpitation of the Heart, Hysterics, Croup, Diptheria, Catarrh, Influenza, Headache, Toothache, Neuralgia, Rheumatism, Cold Chills, Ague Chills, Chilblains and Frost Bites.

The application of the READY RELIEF to the part or parts where the pain or difficulty exists will afford ease and comfort.

Thirty to sixty drops in half a tumbler of water will in a few moments cure Cramps, Spasms, Sour Stomach, Heartburn, Sick Headache, Diarrhoea, Dysentery, Colic, Wind in the Bowels, and all Internal Pains.

Travellers should always carry a bottle of RADWAY'S READY RELIEF with them. A few drops in water will prevent sickness or pains from change of water.

It is better than French Brandy or Bitters as a stimulant.

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FEVER AND AGUE cured for fifty cents. There is not a remedial agent in this world that will cure Fever and Ague, and all other Malarious, Bilious, Scarlet, Typhoid, Yellow, and other Fevers (aided by RADWAY'S PILLS) so quick as RADWAY'S READY RELIEF. Fifty cents per bottle.

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STRONG AND PURE RICH BLOOD—INCREASE OF FLESH AND WEIGHT—CLEAR SKIN AND BEAUTIFUL COMPLEXION SECURED TO ALL.

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HAS MADE THE MOST ASTONISHING CURES; SO QUICK, SO RAPID ARE THE CHANGES THE BODY UNDERGOES, UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF THIS TRULY WONDERFUL MEDICINE, THAT

Every Day an Increase in Flesh and Weight is Seen and Felt.

THE GREAT BLOOD PURIFIER.

Every drop of the SARSAPARILLIAN RESOLVENT communicates through the Blood, Sweat, Urine, and other fluids and juices of the system the *vigor of life*, for it repairs the wastes of the body with new and sound material. [illegible]

If the patient, daily becoming reduced by the wastes and decomposition that is continually progressing, succeeds in arresting these wastes, and repairs the same with new material made from healthy blood—and this the SARSAPARILLIAN will and does secure—a cure is certain; for when once this remedy commences its work of purification, and succeeds in diminishing the loss of wastes, its repairs will be rapid, and every day the patient will feel himself growing better and stronger, the food digesting better, appetite improving, and flesh and weight increasing.

Not only does the SARSAPARILLIAN RESOLVENT excel all known remedial agents in the cure of Chronic, Scrofulous, Constitutional, and Skin diseases; but it is the only positive cure for

Kidney and Bladder Complaints.

Urinary, and Womb diseases, Gravel, Diabetes, Dropsy, Stoppage of Water, Incontinence of Urine, Bright's Disease, Albuminuria, and in all cases where there are brick dust deposits, or the water is thick, cloudy, mixed with substances like the white of an egg, or threads like white silk, or there is a morbid, dark, bilious appearance, and white bone-dust deposits, and when there is a pricking, burning sensation when passing water, and pain in the Small of the Back and along the Loins.

Tumor of 12 Years' Growth Cured by Radway's Resolvent.

BEVERLY, MASS., July 18, 1869.

DR. RADWAY:—I have had Ovarian Tumor in the ovaries and bowels. All the Doctors said "there was no help for it." I tried everything that was recommended; but nothing helped me. I saw your Resolvent, and thought I would try it; but had no faith in it, because I had suffered for twelve years. I took six bottles of the Resolvent, and one box of Radway's Pills, and two bottles of your Ready Relief; and there is not a sign of tumor to be seen or felt, and I feel better, smarter, and happier than I have for twelve years. The worst tumor was in the left side of the bowels, over the groin. I write this to you for the benefit of others. You can publish it if you choose.
HANNAH P. KNAPP.

Price $1 per Bottle.

AN IMPORTANT LETTER.

ANN ARBOR, MICH., April 26, 1875.

DR. RADWAY—*Kind Sir*: I have been using your Resolvent, Regulating Pills, and also your Ready Relief about one year for ovarian tumors in the abdomen which the most eminent physicians of our Medical College pronounced incurable. [illegible]

MRS. C. KRAPF.

Another Letter from Mrs. C. Krapf.

August 18, 1875.

DR. RADWAY—*Kind Sir*: [illegible]

MRS. C. KRAPF.

[illegible] ANN ARBOR, MICH., Aug. 18, 1875.

OVARIAN TUMOR
OF TEN YEARS' GROWTH CURED BY
RADWAY'S REMEDIES.

Has had an Ovarian Tumor in the Ovaries and Bowels for Ten Years.

ANN ARBOR, MICH., Dec. 27, 1875.

DR. RADWAY: That others may be benefited, I make this statement: [illegible]

(Signed) MRS. E. C. BIBBINS.

[illegible]

(Signed) L. S. LEACH, Druggist and Chemist, Ann Arbor, Mich.

[illegible]

(Signed) BENJ. B. COCKER, MARY COCKER, MARY B. FORD, E. B. FORD.

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Perfectly tasteless, elegantly coated with sweet gum, purge, regulate, purify, cleanse and strengthen. Radway's Pills, for the cure of all disorders of the Stomach, Liver, Bowels, Kidneys, Bladder, Nervous Diseases, Headache, Constipation, Costiveness, Indigestion, Dyspepsia, Biliousness, Fever, Inflammation of the Bowels, Piles, and all Derangements of the Internal Viscera. Warranted to effect a positive cure. Purely vegetable, containing no mercury, minerals or deleterious drugs.

☞ Observe the following symptoms resulting from Disorders of the Digestive Organs: Constipation, Inward Piles, Fullness of the Blood in the head, Acidity of the Stomach, Nausea, Heartburn, Disgust of Food, Fullness or Weight in the Stomach, Sour Eructations, Sinking or Fluttering at the Heart, Choking or Suffering Sensations when in a Lying Posture, Dimness of Vision, Dots or Webs before the sight, Fever and Dull Pain in the Head, Deficiency of Perspiration, Yellowness of the Skin and Eyes, Pain in the Side, Chest, Limbs and Sudden flushes of Heat, Burning in the Flesh.

A few doses of Radway's Pills will free the system from all the above named disorders. Price 25 cents per box. Sold by Druggists.

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